

The Florida Bibliophile

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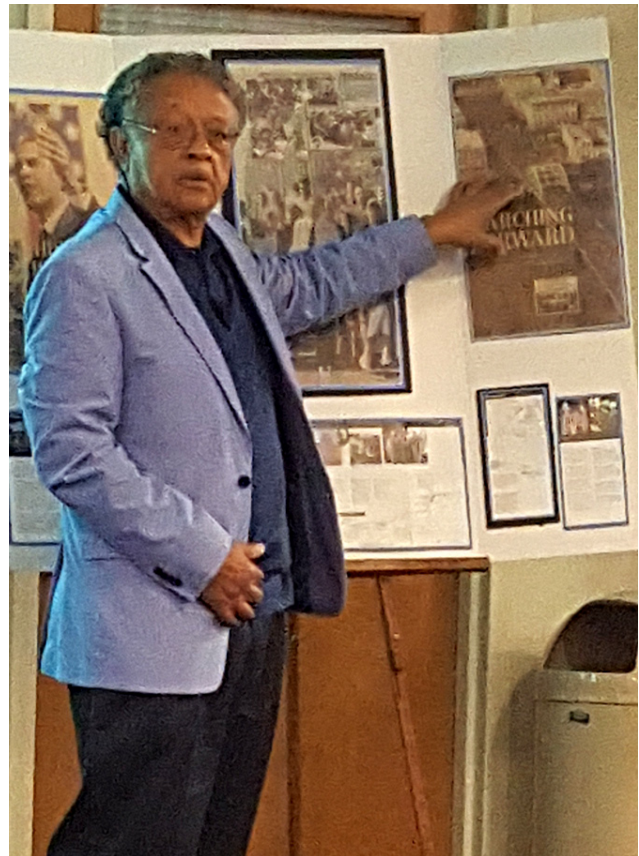
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Deadline for the April newsletter is
Thursday, March 28, 2019.
See page 20 for details.

Membership in the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies is included with your FBS membership. The FBS newsletter is now electronic as well as in print. Access a PDF of the Spring 2019 FABS Journal [here](http://floridabooksellers.com/bookfair.html).



February speaker Wilson Blount points out coverage in the Selma Times Journal of an anniversary of the March 1965 civil rights march. The anniversary pictured drew 80,000 people. Another news item on the display depicts President Barack Obama, who spoke at the 50th Anniversary Jubilee of the march in 2015.



Make your plans to join us...

**38th Annual
Florida Antiquarian
Book Fair**

April 26–28, 2019 – St. Petersburg, FL

(<http://floridabooksellers.com/bookfair.html>)



Florida Bibliophile Society
A community of book lovers

Minutes of the Florida Bibliophile Society Meeting, February 17, 2019

With a few extra visitors to meet and lively conversations over coffee, President Jerry Morris had called the February meeting to order, with a little difficulty, around 1:40 pm. Our speaker was Wilson Blount, with his wife Bobbie and daughter Shana. Over the next hour or so, Wilson and Bobbie described their experience of the Selma marches of 1965, and their daughter Shana talked about how she learned of her parents' involvement and came to her own understanding of the events in those days. They took questions during the presentation and after. Wilson brought a display of clippings about Selma anniversaries and Bobbie set up a display of books about the march and the Civil Rights Movement.

Introduction

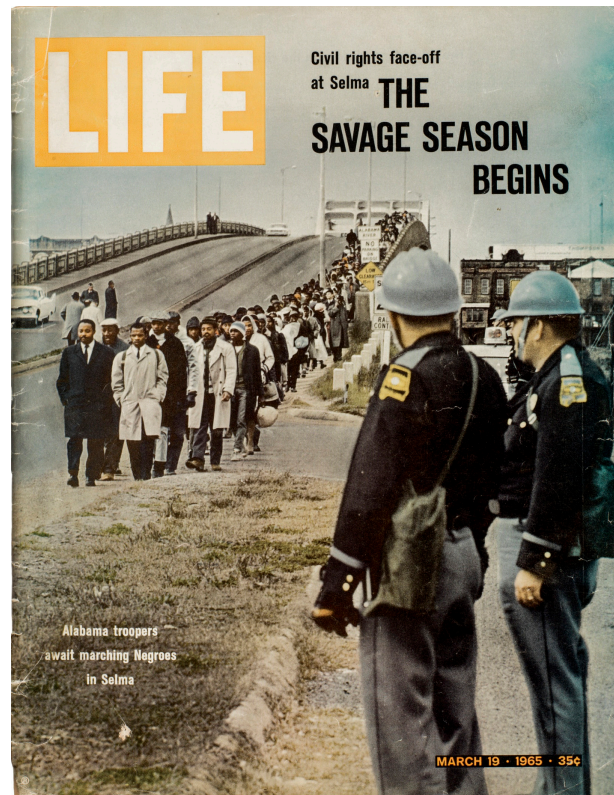
The 15th amendment of the U.S. Constitution was ratified on February 3, 1870. It was the last of three Reconstruction amendments which attempted to abolish slavery in the U.S., guarantee the full citizenship of anyone born in the U.S., and guarantee the right of all citizens to vote.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

— U.S. Constitution, 15th Amendment, Sec. 1

Thus began almost 100 years of efforts in many states to frustrate these amendments by limiting the rights of nonwhite citizens, to institute methods of slavery by other means, and to deny nonwhite citizens access to the polls. Broadly, the laws and practices that effected these efforts were known as Jim Crow. In 1964, sweeping legislation, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, was signed by President Lyndon Baines Johnson as part of a series of efforts to end the Jim Crow Era and fulfil the promise of legal equality given in the U.S. Constitution and its amendments.

With the U.S. Constitution and the Civil Rights Act behind them, black Americans had every right to be allowed to register to vote and then to cast ballots without interference and without onerous requirements intended to block registration and voting. However, determined opponents of civil



Life magazine for March 19, 1965. Dallas County officers observe as a column of about 600 civil rights demonstrators descend from the Edmund Pettus Bridge into Selma on March 7. The photo does not capture the large number of police that were waiting for the marchers in a large open area at the base of the bridge.

rights continued to seek ways to prohibit blacks from participating in their own government.

In March 1965, having exhausted all legal means of persuading or forcing the state of Alabama and its jurisdictions to allow blacks to register and to vote, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., called for an unpermitted march in Selma, Alabama, with the goal of crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge over the Alabama River into Selma. The march took place on March 7, 1965.

About 600 people participated in that march, and they were able to cross the bridge, but when they reached the Selma side of the river, they were met with a massive police presence — every white male over the age of 21 in Dallas County had been called to be deputized and repel the marchers. Attempts by the leaders of the march to talk to police authorities were met with curt rejections. Almost immediately,

Minutes, continued

John Lewis, a leader of the Selma march, is beaten by a police officer as another demonstrator rushes to his aid. Demonstrators had been trained to resist violence only by protecting themselves. Images of these beatings were carried around the world.

the police began forcing marchers to the ground and beating them with nightsticks. Tear gas canisters were shot into the crowd, and mounted police charged the marchers. Marchers had been advised not to initiate violence or to resist attacks – self-defense had often been used as a pretext for escalated police violence and arrest. That day was Bloody Sunday.

Television images of the peaceful marchers, the police attack, the mayhem, and the bloody and injured demonstrators led news broadcasts and made headlines around the world. In a rare event, ABC broke into a special Sunday night broadcast of *Judgement at Nuremberg* to broadcast footage of the events earlier that day.

March leaders organized another event two days later, March 9 – the marchers walked halfway across the bridge and then turned back, staying within the prescriptions of a court order. On March 11, the Reverend James Reeb was beaten to death in Selma. Civil rights leaders felt that a powerful statement was needed. They planned a four-day march from Selma to the state capital, Montgomery, 60 miles away.

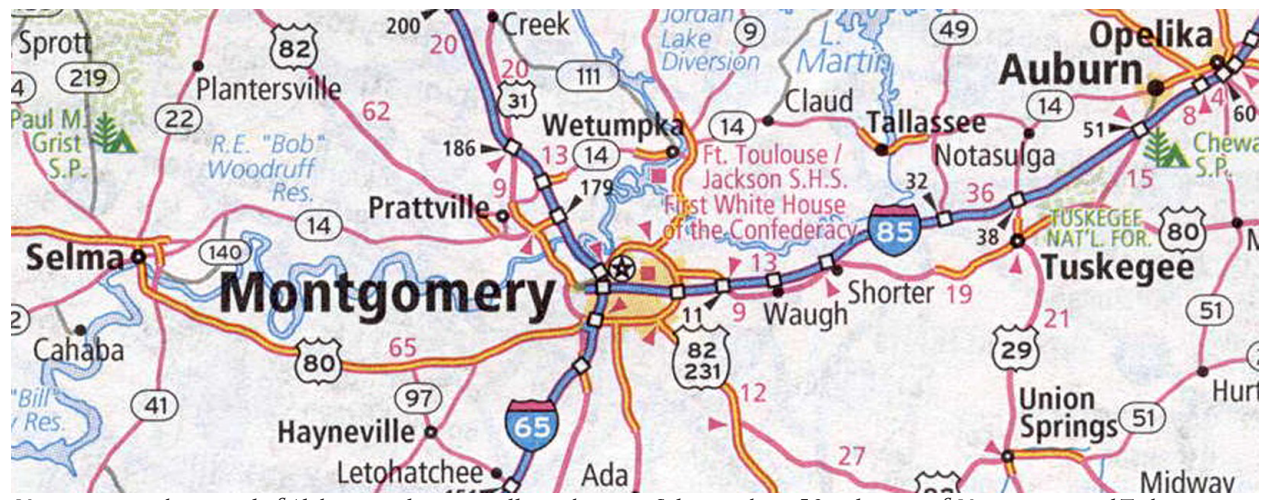
In August 1965, the marchers' work was rewarded with the Voting Rights Act, which contained extensive regulations meant to protect elections and guarantee access to registration and polls, as well as oversight provisions to enforce these regulations on states with a history of violating voting rights.

Even today, the arcane laws put in place over the 100 years of Jim Crow continue to disenfranchise hundreds of thousands, especially in the South. Voter roll purges and gerrymandering are just two of the tools still used to reduce the power of the vote.

Wilson's Story

In 1965, Wilson Blount was a junior at Tuskegee University, then Tuskegee Institute. His future girlfriend and later wife, Bobbie, was a freshman. They were both business majors, and both became involved in the events of March 1965.

Tuskegee, Alabama, is about as far east of Montgomery as Selma is west – a car ride of an hour or so. Wilson told the audience that the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery was the site of planning and training for many civil rights activities. In their training, marchers were warned that they might be arrested on the slightest pretext. They were instructed not to initiate any violence or to resist, other than to curl up and protect their heads and faces. They were to carry at least 50 cents at all times, otherwise, they would be subject to Alabama's vagrancy laws – 50 cents was proof that someone could at least get something to eat. Marchers were to obey all traffic laws. Women, children, and elders were asked to march in the center of the column,

Minutes, continued

Montgomery is the capital of Alabama and set centrally in the state. Selma is about 50 miles west of Montgomery, and Tuskegee is about 40 miles east.

where they would be most protected from violence on the part of police or counter-protesters. Though he was in Tuskegee, Wilson remained alert for calls to march and participated in training.

— were arrested and then released to Klansmen who shot them and buried their bodies in an earthen dam. There were many other victims, both black and white, women and men.

In February 1965, a young man named Jimmie Lee Jackson was marching in Marion, Alabama, with his mother and grandfather. When police attempted to attack them, Jimmie defended his family. He was beaten and shot to death. In response to this outrage, leaders called for a march of dramatic length, the Selma–Montgomery march.

The main point of these marches was to persuade officials in Alabama to allow blacks to register and to vote, as the law demanded. Authorities were still finding ways to “allow” registration, but to complicate the process so that most people were effectively blocked. For example, one judge required that only three people could register at one time, making voting registration drives ineffective.

Wilson was not sure over 50 years later exactly where he was before the march on Bloody Sunday. He remembers being at the Dexter Avenue church, waiting for the word: a call from Martin — because, as Wilson explained, that’s what they called him — not Dr. King, or Martin Luther King, just Martin. (He would later tell us that Dr. King was born Michael, but when his father, who was also a pastor, learned about Martin Luther’s work on a trip to Germany, he decided to honor Luther’s achievement



Jimmie Lee Jackson was born in Marion, Alabama, and graduated from high school there in 1954. He had planned to leave rural Alabama and head north, but the death of his father in 1961 kept him in Marion, working as a logger. In 1962, he witnessed the rude treatment his grandfather received when he tried to register to vote. Jimmie got involved. In 1965, during a night march in his hometown, the marchers were confronted by police. The streetlights were turned off and in the ensuing scuffle, Jimmie was shot in the abdomen and died eight days later. The man who shot him, Trooper James Fowler, was arrested and charged — 40 years later. Fowler pleaded guilty to second-degree manslaughter and served six months in prison.

Wilson explained the tension of the times, and the violent attacks on blacks that were on everyone’s minds. He cited a few incidents. Medgar Evers, leader of NAACP operations in Mississippi, was killed by a sniper in Jackson in June 1963. In September 1963, four young girls — Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley — were killed by a bomb as they prepared for services at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham. In Philadelphia, Mississippi, three civil rights workers — James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael “Mickey” Schwerner

Minutes, continued

by changing his name and his son's name to Martin. Close relatives continued to call Martin Jr. Mike.)

People from all over America, Canada, and even Europe were gathered in and around Montgomery and meeting at the Dexter Avenue Church, waiting. When the call came, Wilson boarded a bus at Tuskegee and departed for Selma.

On March 7, 1965, the call came. Wilson boarded the bus headed for Selma and the bridge crossing. His bus was delayed. He did not arrive in time to cross the bridge, but he could see the commotion on the other side, the south side of the bridge. The horses were uneasy and noisy; he could hear dogs barking. Lines of police cars closed off a large open area at the foot of the bridge. Wilson speculated that this was the reason the police allowed the marchers to cross the bridge: the large open area with sparse business would give the police a tactical advantage.

Then there was gunfire and tear gas. Wilson heard reports that one of the march's leaders, John Lewis (now in the House of Representatives), was being beaten, but Wilson could not see through the clouds of gas. It went on for a long time.

Eventually, the marchers crossed back over the bridge. Wilson got on the bus to go home. It was completely silent.

They returned two days later, "Turnaround Tuesday," and marched halfway across the bridge. Many marchers were confused or angered by the sudden reversal. But turning back was essential for the march to stay within the requirements of the court order that had resulted from Bloody Sunday.

The two marches were followed by ten days of very bad press for President Johnson to manage. According to Wilson, Johnson called King and told him that the protests had to stop. Johnson was trying to shepherd more civil rights legislation through Congress, and the images of the protests were making that more difficult. But King replied that the actions could not stop – voting rights were too important, and they had waited long enough.

The image of Alabama that was appearing around the world was not lost on the governor of Alabama,



On "Turnaround Tuesday," March 9, 1965, marchers walked over the Edmund Pettus bridge but made a U-turn before entering Selma as part of an agreement with the court that allowed them to march.

George Wallace, or on Alabama's congressional delegation. They were talking to King and other civil rights leaders to try to find a way forward without more civil actions. The leaders were clear that they would proceed with the Selma-to-Montgomery march, and they demanded better protection: the National Guard. In mid-March, the march leaders received the court decision allowing them to march.

On March 21, the marchers set out from Selma. At night, they slept in the yards of homes where owners or renters invited them. Later, many renters were evicted by their white landlords. They slept wherever they could and ate whatever they could. There were no sanitary facilities, so they had to relieve themselves wherever it was possible.

Wilson joined the four-day march from Selma to Montgomery on the outskirts of Montgomery for the march to the capitol. It all seemed well organized. When they reached Montgomery, they were greeted by more police than Wilson had ever seen. The National Guard had been brought in to maintain order, but instead of blocking the path, local police and National Guard were lining the march route.

The streets were crowded, there were many National Guardsmen in uniform. About 3,000 had started at Selma, but by Montgomery, there were 25,000 marching. Wilson was on the edge of the march column, along with other young men. He said they were marching within reach of the police. As young as he was, he could tell that there were many officers in uniforms holding rifles who were younger than he was. They were pimply, scared, frozen, with a "death grip" on the barrels of their rifles. Many rifles had a rose sticking out of the barrel. Flower power.

Minutes, continued

Arm in arm, hand in hand, Martin Luther King, Jr., and his wife Coretta Scott King and others lead 25,000 marchers as they sing, moving steadily through the streets of Montgomery, Alabama, headed toward the state capitol.

There was singing, but Wilson does not recall hearing it. In Selma, the mood was serious and tense — there were none of the songs that the marchers typically sung. Even the famous “We Shall Overcome” was not heard. But in Montgomery, the mood was more positive, and there was singing everywhere.

There were no Confederate flags and no taunters, no intimidation. They did see banners held by students from Northern white colleges and Southern black colleges, but no Southern white colleges were represented. Wilson was impressed with the variety of people there — people of all colors, ethnicities, religions.

The march proceeded smoothly toward the capitol building. City officials had worked with King to assure that marchers would be safe and that the march would proceed without violence. However, Governor Wallace remained intransigent and ordered that any demonstrator that stepped on state property should be arrested.

Bobbie’s Story

Bobbie spoke after Wilson, and her story begins here, in Montgomery. She was a freshman at Tuskegee and, she said, not the type to try something that felt as dangerous as marching. But her roommate was determined and just told her over and over, “Bobbie, we’ve got to do this.” She was terrified, but committed, and she knew she had to be a part of it.

Her memories of the events of that day were hazy because it was so frightening. She said that the troops were on the tallest horses she had ever seen. There were troopers everywhere.

She was focused on staying close to her friends.

It seemed like forever.

She didn’t remember getting back on the bus

She didn’t remember students on the bus

She didn’t remember going back to Tuskegee

She didn’t talk about it for years.

Minutes, continued

Troopers on horseback corner and intimidate marchers in Montgomery.

After the March

In 1966, Wilson graduated from Tuskegee and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He and Bobbie were married in 1968. They were stationed at several locations, stateside and overseas, over the next 10 years. They had a family. In 1978, Wilson left active duty and served the Air Force on the civilian side, working at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, near Dayton, Ohio. He joined the Air Force Reserve. In 1999, Wilson retired from the Reserve as a colonel, and in 2000, he retired from his civilian job. Bobbie and Wilson returned to Florida in 2009.

They had both marched in 1965 and wanted to be part of the Selma anniversary. They made their first trip in 2010. For Bobbie, it brought everything back. She was surprised how emotional it was and how vividly she remembered the terror of being on those streets surrounded by the crowds and the troopers on those enormous horses.

Her grandmother had lived in Selma, and they visited regularly. Bobbie visited her grave. She visited locations in Selma that her grandmother would not have been allowed to enter. She went to the St. James Hotel, built in 1837; as the Brantley, it had served generations of Alabamians, but not her grandmother

— her grandmother who at age 77 marched across the bridge and then marched back across, back to the church to prepare food for the other marchers.

Bobbie and Wilson have returned for the Selma anniversary several times. John Lewis, a leader of the marches and one of the victims of police violence, is there every year. Lewis is now in Congress, serving his 17th term representing Georgia's 5th congressional district, which is roughly centered on Atlanta and extends to the southwest and southeast.

In 2015, the Blounts attended the 50th Anniversary Jubilee at Selma. Barack Obama, the U.S.'s first African-American president, was there and spoke. The *New York Times* described the speech as one of the most stirring Obama had ever given. President Obama began with comments about the experience of the marchers that Sunday morning:

Now, I have to imagine that when a younger John Lewis woke up that morning 50 years ago and made his way to Brown Chapel, heroics were not on his mind. A day like this was not on his mind. Young folks with bedrolls and backpacks were milling about. Veterans of the movement trained newcomers in the tactics of non-violence; the right way to protect yourself when attacked. A doctor described what tear gas does to the body, while marchers scribbled down instructions for contacting their loved ones. The air was thick with doubt, anticipation and fear. And they comforted themselves with the final verse of the final hymn they sang:

No matter what may be the test, God
will take care of you;

Lean, weary one, upon His breast, God
will take care of you.

John Lewis was there, of course, and so were President George W. Bush and Laura Bush, the governor of Alabama Robert Bentley, the mayor of Selma, 100 members of Congress, and many other "elected officials, foot soldiers, and friends."

And there among them, two people who had marched 50 years ago, Bobbie and Wilson Blount.

Minutes, continued

Thousands stream across the Edmund Pettus Bridge during the 50th anniversary Jubilee celebration of the 1965 Selma March.

Shana's story

The Selma anniversary brings Shana, one of Bobbie and Wilson's children, into the story.

Shana shared that being raised on military bases, she never saw color. There was always such a variety of people – everyone worked together, played together, partied together – it just never occurred to her that the entire country wasn't like that.

It was when she went to college that she encountered the civilian culture of the U.S. It was starkly different, and she saw for the first time that what she heard about was "all real." This might be difficult for most Americans to believe, and although many overt forms of racism have been overcome in many areas, there are other areas where racism persists quite openly and vestiges of racism that pervade the culture in ways that seem subtle to most Americans but are part of the everyday lives of African-Americans.

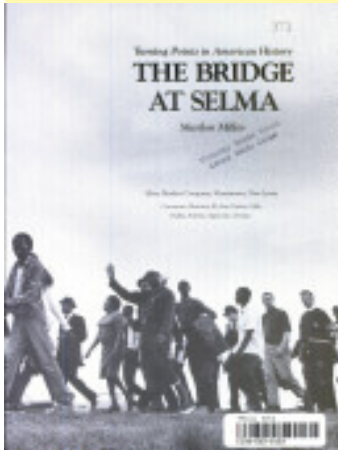
Shana shared that Wilson and Bobbie had never really talked about the march or their involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, so when she went with them to Selma for the first time, she was a little shocked and angry. Once again, she had that experience of a door opening that had concealed very important realities.

It was the second trip she made to Selma when she really got a grasp of her parents' experience. The ride to Selma from their home in Florida is a car trip of five or six hours. Shana said that they talked about the march the entire time. By the time they got to Selma, Shana was beginning to really share Wilson and Bobbie's experience.

Afterword

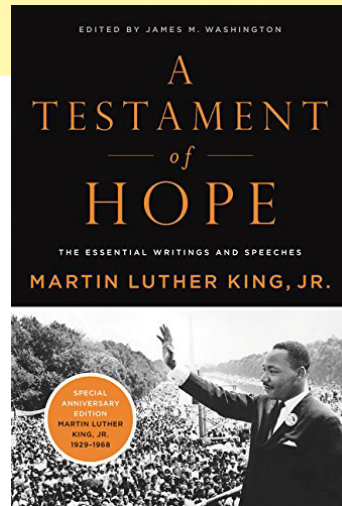
The afternoon with the Blounts felt very personal and contributed to warm and friendly conversation, leading to a question for Bobbie: "How did you and Wilson meet?"

Wilson protested a little, but Bobbie answered. She and Wilson had met at Tuskegee, where they were both business majors. Though Wilson describes himself as "not very involved," his activities tell another story, and Bobbie described how he would deliver food to college and public school students daily as part of the Tuskegee Institute Community Education Program. He had already noticed her in class and reached out a bit – whenever there were extra chicken pot pies, he brought them to Bobbie's dormitory for her and the other girls. "That did it," she said; "It was those chicken pot pies." She added that she ate so many chicken pot pies in those days that she really can't face them anymore.

*Minutes, continued***Suggested Reading and Viewing****Bobbie Blount**

The Bridge at Selma (Turning Points in American History), Marilyn Miller, Silver Burdett, 1985, 64 pp.

The Bridge at Selma is designed for younger readers, but its story is no less powerful or inspiring. It describes the far-reaching repercussions of the events of March 7, 1965, when 525 men, women, and children in Alabama marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge into Selma to dramatize their demands to register to vote.



A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writing and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr., James M. Washington, ed., Harper, 736 pp.

A Testament of Hope collects in one volume writings, speeches, interviews, and autobiographical reflections of one of the most influential Americans of the 20th century. The book is divided into five parts: Philosophy, Famous Sermons and Public Addresses, Historic Essays, Interviews, and Books. The material in each part is not just a sampling but shows the development of King's key ideas and practices, such as his convictions about nonviolence, the path to integration, and negotiating black nationalist movements.



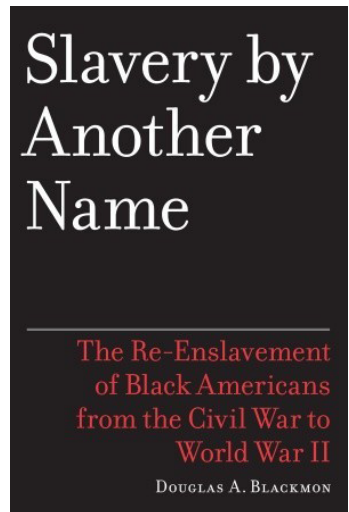
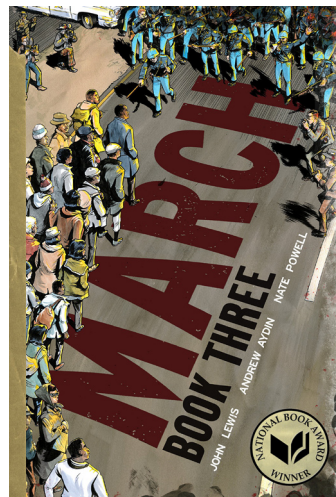
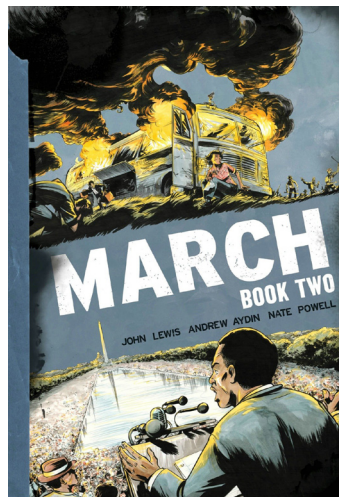
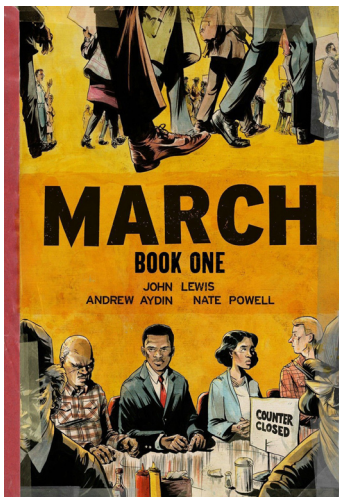
Selma (2014), Ava DuVernay, dir., Paul Webb, script, Pathé, Harpo Films, Plan B Entertainment, Cloud Eight Films, Ingenious Media, 128 min.

Included by dozens of critics on their Top Ten lists for 2014 and nominated or winning dozens more, *Selma* focuses on three months in 1965 when the battle for voting rights had come to a head. The story follows Martin Luther King Jr. as he and others respond to violent opposition with overwhelming nonviolence, ultimately making a case with human courage as eloquent as King's words.



Selma, Lord, Selma (1999), Charles Burnett, dir., Cynthia Whitcomb, script, Walt Disney Pictures, 94 min.

First broadcast in 1999 in *The Wonderful World of Disney* television show, *Selma, Lord, Selma* views the events of March 1965 through the eyes of a young teenager, Sheyann. She is old enough to understand what Dr. King is working toward, and his words inspire her to get involved. She learns lessons about fairness and equality, which she shares with friends. Sheyann learns of the death of Jimmie Lee Jackson and of the march into Selma. She is determined to march. As the youngest marcher, she faces the fear and learns that the fight for freedom will take courage.

Minutes, continued

March (3 vols.), John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell, Top Shelf Productions, 2016 (slipcase edition), 560 pp. Representative John Lewis was at the bridge in Selma on Bloody Sunday and was one of those beaten by police. *March* is a biographical work telling the story of Lewis's involvement in the civil rights movement. It has received numerous awards, including the National Book Award and an Eisner Award (Best Reality-Based Work).

March – Book One

Book One begins with Lewis at the Edmund Pettus Bridge on March 7, 1965. Events of that day are told, then the story shifts to 2009 on the day of the inauguration of President Barack Obama. As Lewis prepared to attend, he is asked about his life story by an Atlanta woman and her two sons. That provides the frame for the rest of the books as Lewis tells about his childhood on an Alabama farm, taking care of chickens. He describes what life in that time, the 1940s and 1950s, was like for blacks. The book traces the beginnings of Lewis's activism up to 1960, including numerous demonstrations and arrests.

March – Book Two

Book Two begins in 1961. Civil rights victories in the late 1950s are now meeting with more resistance. Lewis joined the Freedom Riders, blacks who rode interstate buses into southern states. It was a simple but powerful strategy to demonstrate that southern states were not abiding by federal laws that prohibited segregated buses. The rides and the attendant incidents fueled awareness and tensions which culminated in the Birmingham bombing that killed four young black girls in 1963. This incident was a turning point for the Civil Rights movement.

March – Book Three

Book Three picks up at the end of 1963. Lewis is now chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which had played an important role in the freedom rides. Lewis helps to guide the movement. The SNCC forces the nation to look at injustice and racism. Southern states respond with more Jim Crow laws and threats of violence and death. SNCC and many other groups increase their activism, with demonstrations focusing on voting rights. These actions lead up to the events in Selma in March 1965.

Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II, Douglas Blackmon, Anchor, 2009, 496 pp.

World War II mobilized America, and the draft brought people from many different backgrounds together. After the war, America was a more homogeneous place – but not for black Americans. Blackmon shows how the promise of abolition, emancipation, and whatever progress was achieved leading up to the war was reversed by the policies or governments and businesses, depriving blacks of their freedom – the methods were more subtle, but the effects were just as overt as the slavery that supposedly ended in the 19th century. The effects of this betrayal are still being felt today.



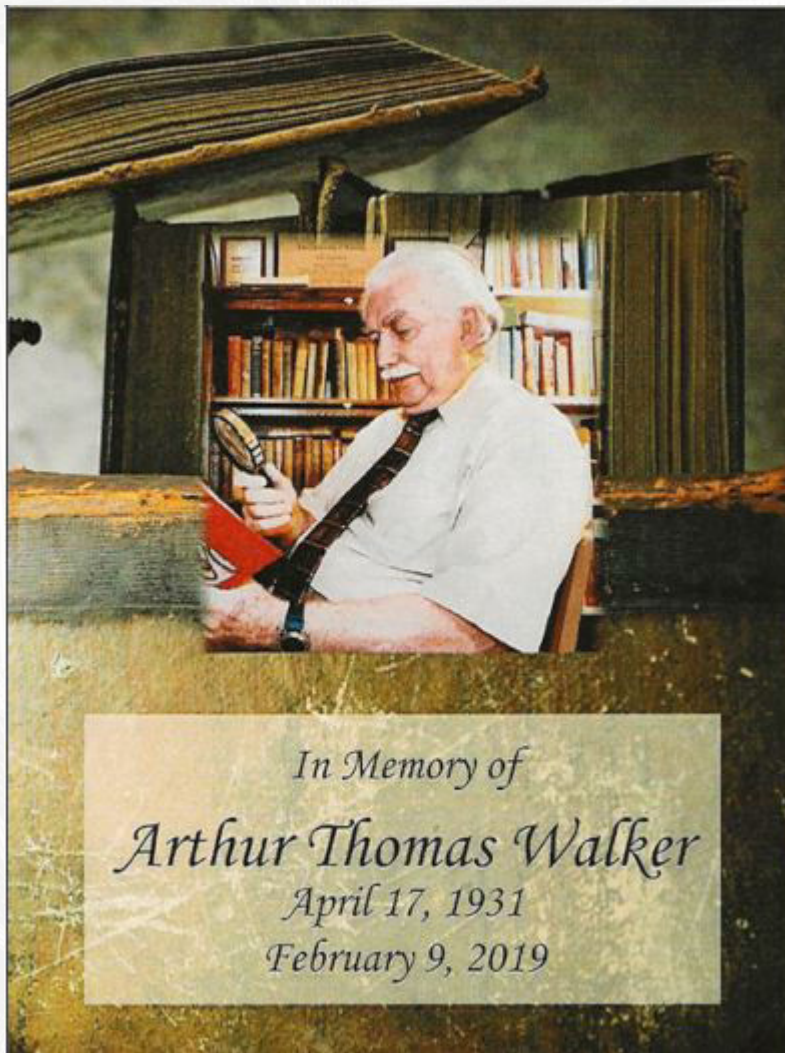
The Florida Bibliophile Society
extends warm wishes to our Irish and American-Irish colleagues
who have contributed to the history and longevity of the book.

St Patrick's Day, March 17
honors writers, scholars, teachers, students, collectors, printers, publishers,
booksellers, actors, and visual artists associated with the Emerald Isle
and her proud pantheon of writers.



Folio 129v, Four Evangelists, **The Book of Kells**. 8th Century AD. Trinity College Dublin
340 folios (680 leaves) on vellum (calfskin), 4 vols. (1953 binding). 330 x 250 mm. In Latin.
Though primarily a religious illuminated manuscript of the Four Gospels, **The Book of Kells**
is an iconic treasure in Western literature and a fine example of medieval Celtic
book design & the visual arts (Christian symbolism / Celtic motifs). Why, 'tis so lavish &
extraordinary, some fancy it the work of angels. < [Video](#), Exhibition of TCD MS 58 >

Contributed by Maureen E. Mulvihill & Charles M. Brown. For Maureen's review of the new
Cambridge History of Ireland, Vol. II, see *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, forthcoming.



The Florida Bibliophile Society sadly announces the recent passing (February 9, 2019) in Tampa, Florida, of Arthur Thomas Walker, age 87.

Art Walker was a respected collector of Sherlock Holmes and also Edward Stratemeyer. To his amusement, he was often mistaken at airports for another Arthur: the conductor, Arthur Fiedler. Mr Walker was a cornerstone member (1980s -) of the Florida Bibliophile Society, and his public lectures with generous table displays of selected rarities were well attended. To date, his considerable library is in the hands of his immediate family (serious interested buyers may contact [Maureen E. Mulvihill](#) for contact details, if and when they become available). The Walker archive of Sherlockiana should be of interest to Baker Street Irregulars (UK and stateside) and to specialist booksellers and collectors. With affection, we remember Arthur Walker, his dedication and his contribution.

Art Walker is survived by three sons and his longtime companion, Geraldine (Gerry) Hynes, a collector of children's book and a watercolorist. They met in Tampa where they were both teachers, and where Art inspired many new devotees of Sherlock Holmes.

— **Maureen E. Mulvihill**

Special thanks to Bruce McKinney's Rare Book Hub for their [Walker page](#).

Illustrations, Sidney Paget, original Holmes illustrator, *The Strand* magazine (London)

FBS Remembers Arthur Walker

Rest in Peace, Arthur.

Your dedication was an inspiration to FBS collectors. Thank you for many years of devoted, loving companionship. Always in my heart.

– Geraldine ('Gerry') Hynes

Art Walker was one of those unexpected, happy influences in my life.

I had always 'collected' books, but through Marshall Rousseau, I met Jay Dobkin and Mike Slicker of Lighthouse Books. They taught me how to collect more systematically, and I chose to focus on Florida books.

I took a class on the Seminoles Indians at the Learning in Retirement program at USF. Art Walker was in that class. He noticed my interest in the teacher's Florida books and maps and told me about FBS. He invited me to attend the next meeting. I did. And that began an amazing journey. It took a little courage to attend my first FABS Tour, in Seattle, but I've now attended several – each one is amazing. Also through Art, I became the editor of the FBS newsletter. In that capacity, I expanded my world again.

Art has enriched my life many times over.

– Sue Tihansky

When I first joined FBS over 20 years ago, Art was one of the first members to come up to me and introduce himself.

All my years as a member, Art was ready and willing to offer any help in my education of book collecting or advice and guidance when I was FBS president.

His easy-going and happy disposition always made being in his presence a pleasure. I was honored to be his friend. He always will be remembered.

– Carl Mario Nudi

Art and Gerry were always together, and he often spoke about "my girlfriend" with obvious affection and pride. They were like a hospitality committee -- always brought refreshments for the meetings -- and I recall a very nice holiday party they held at Gerry's condo. I remember many meaningful conversations with Art. Much missed.

– Joan Sackheim



Gerry Hynes and Art Walker

When the first FBS president quit on short notice Art and Gerry were two of the people who helped me get us going again, and they remained primary members for many years. Art had been a teacher at MacDill AFB. He was either the third or fourth president of FBS and served a two-year term, as was the custom early on. I was doing the monthly newsletter at the time, and he was always prompt with his "Art's Airings" to lead off our front page. He and Gerry made a good pair and reinforced each other in regard to FBS activities – could not have asked for better members of the club. **– Lee Harrer**

I knew Art as a gentle, kind man with a twinkle in his eye. He loved sharing his Sherlock Holmes knowledge and collection and contributed so much to the fun and enjoyment of FBS. I have been missing him and will continue to do so. **– Irene Pavese**

Art was one of those bibliophiles who dressed up for an FBS meeting. I don't think I ever saw him without a sports jacket. I knew he was an authority on Sherlock Holmes, but I remember most his presentation on the Stratemeyer Syndicate. I learned a lot that day. **– Jerry Morris**

I remember Art and Gerry from my first FBS meeting, five years ago. They were so welcoming, and Art was a Florida Gator – I felt right at home. His and Gerry's warmth and dedication are missed. **– Charles Brown**

Bookstore Visits: Whampus Used Books, Loveland, CO

Jaya Nair

As I am spending 10 months in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains completing my AmeriCorps service term, working with children who are struggling with reading, I was on the search once again for a bookstore as I do wherever I find myself. To be honest, I was starting to give up on finding a bookstore in this town. Yes, there were a few I stumbled upon and found a book or two, but I had yet to find one where I truly got lost in the smell of books, where I could sit for hours and find a plethora of books on topics I never even knew existed.

With a little help from my dear friend, Google, after a bit of searching, I came across a bookstore with great reviews. I was a bit hesitant at first, but I am so glad I went on an adventure to this bookstore. At first, when we were looking for it, we passed it twice – Whampus Used Books is back from the road. Once we parked and made it in, I knew this was a book-lover's heaven. As soon as you walk up to the oddly shaped building, you feel welcomed.

On that day, the walkway outside Whampus was filled with carts and boxes of books. As soon as I walked in, my nose filled with the scent of books (yes, you know that smell), and my eyes couldn't find a place to rest. Even just walking into the bookstore, I was hit with so many different types of books, antiques, collectibles, rows and rows of classics, and much more. The bookstore is a complete gem in the city of Loveland. On the bookstore's two levels, you will find the halls lined with books and rooms filled with even more. Pretty much any subject you can think of, you will most likely find.

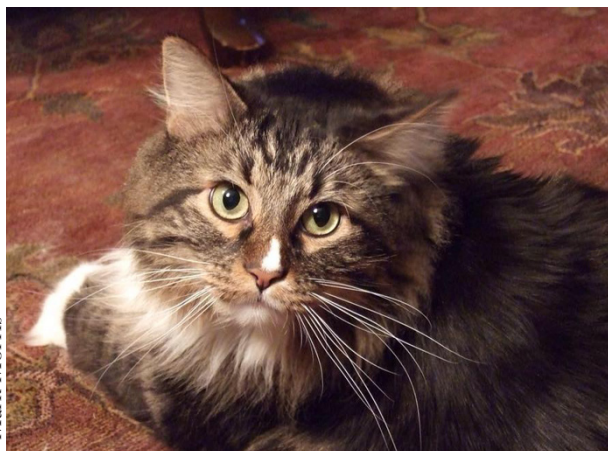


Cherish Andahl, Google Maps

After further exploration, I found books on poetry, mental health, books about books, children's books, ancient history, cookbooks, books on gardening, philosophy, and the list goes on! Not only was Mark Moody, the owner of Whampus Used Books, extremely helpful, answering my every random question and taking the time to help me find each book I was looking for, but everything was already so neatly organized in each room that I could just sit in each for hours, scouring each shelf, drawn to whatever piqued my interest. Of course, as many of you may have already guessed, the first place I looked was the area with Chinese-related books. While I was not able to find many, only about two or three shelves, I was able to find some great ones. There was also a good amount of books on my second country of interest, Russia, as well as many other countries.

In the end, I walked out with some great finds. I found a book called *Understanding Global Cultures, Cultural Literacy* by E.D. Hirsch, *Common Sense and Other Political Writings* by Thomas Paine, *The Language Instinct* by Steven Pinker, and a couple of Chinese-related books, such as a collection of writings of Mao ZeDong. My mom and brother also found a stack of their own. I would say that overall this was a great trip. I will be back to Whampus Used Books soon!

Whampus Used Books, 636 E. Eisenhower Blvd., Loveland, CO 80537



Mark Morris

The late Whampus, the owner's cat

Whampus, continued

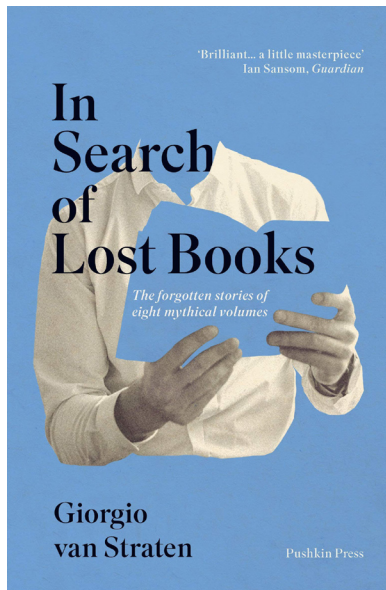


Top: Jaya Nair and Whampus owner Mark Moody. Mark has taken a barn-style building in Loveland, CO, and filled it with books and comfortable reading corners. (Photos: Jaya Nair)

Books in Brief

In Search of Lost Books: The Forgotten Stories of Eight Mythical Volumes

Giorgio Van Straten, translated by Simon Carnell and Erica Segre
Pushkin Press
144 pp., 2018



Virgil famously requested that his unfinished work, the *Aeneid*, be destroyed after his death. It was not, and only for that act of defiance, we have one of the great works of ancient Rome. But suppose someone had circulated the *Aeneid* among a handful of friends and then burned it? That happened to Van Straten, and it has haunted him ever since.

Novelist and translator, Van Straten produced a page-turner about books whose pages will (most likely) never be turned again. Devoted to uncovering traces of lost books, his mission leads him to “chart a journey around the world in eight volumes rather than in 80 days,” into Canada, England, France, Italy, Poland, Russia, and Spain. The lost books include Byron’s memoirs, deliberately burned; the intended last volumes of Gogol’s *Dead Souls*, lost to the author’s “perfectionism and self-sabotage”; Hemingway’s first novel, supposedly lost in a suitcase by his first wife; and Romano Bilenchy’s unfinished novel, *The Avenue*, which van Straten was one of the fewer than a half-dozen people to read before it was destroyed by the author’s widow. A similar fate, apparently, met Sylvia Plath’s novel *Double Exposure* at the hands of her widower, Ted Hughes. As van Straten takes note, there is the question in some cases of whether the book ever existed at all. No matter, he brings to each unique and intriguing tale of books “that once existed but are no longer here” erudition flavored with elegance, wit, and good humor. ¶

Sources: *Publishers Weekly*; Amazon

The Invention of Rare Books: Private Interest and Public Memory, 1600-1840

David McKitterick
Cambridge University Press
460 pp., 2018

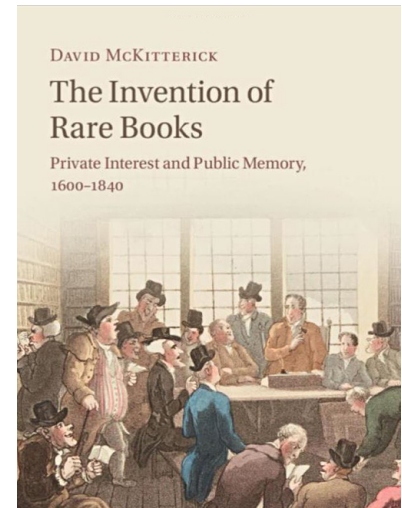
How can David McKitterick write: “Little attention has been paid to the emergence, between the first years of the seventeenth century and the middle years of the eighteenth, of rare books defined as a category of special interest.”? Haven’t rare books always been rare? The answer is no.

The Gutenberg Bible, often given as a prime example of a rare book, was not recognized as the first major printed book until the mid-eighteenth century. In the late seventeenth century, books printed by William Caxton could be had for a few shillings, and did not necessarily sell quickly, but a century later, they were being fought over at auction.

McKitterick explores for the first time how the concept of “rare books” developed and how it became a central, if ambiguous, term in the private sphere of the book trade and in the public one of libraries.

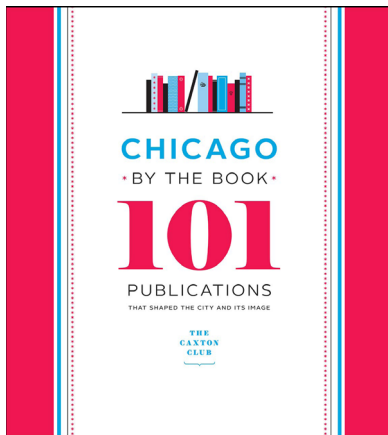
Calling a book rare requires a self-consciousness on the collective of writers, printers, and book sellers and resellers. This attitude begins in the late sixteenth century, when there was an increasing awareness of the huge numbers of printed books that had come into circulation over the course of a hundred and more years. As national libraries formed and their role in defining books, especially rare and valuable ones, as a nation’s patrimony. The concept of a rare book began to take on life at the intersection of the private trade in books and the public preservations of them. ¶

Sources: D. McKitterick, cambridgeblog.org; Amazon



*Books in Brief, concluded***Chicago by the Book: 101 Publications That Shaped the City and Its Image**

Niel Harris (introduction)
Caxton Club
336 pp., 2018



Chicago has a rough image: stockyards, railroads, gangsters, O'Hare! For all that, Chicago is also an architectural wonder, an art center, home to one of the U.S.'s premier bibliophile societies, the Caxton Club, and numerous authors. The city has fostered writers

such as Nelson Algren, Saul Bellow, and Gwendolyn Brooks. Chicago's literary magazines *The Little Review* and *Poetry* introduced the world to Eliot, Hemingway, Joyce, and Pound. With this beautifully produced collection, Chicago's rich literary tradition finally gets its due.

Chicago by the Book profiles 101 landmark publications about Chicago from the past 170 years that have helped define the city and its image. Each title – carefully selected by the Caxton Club, a venerable Chicago bibliophilic organization – is the focus of an illustrated essay by a leading scholar, writer, or bibliophile.

Arranged chronologically to show the history of both the city and its books, the essays reflect on the arts, sports, crime, race relations, urban planning, politics, and even Mrs. O'Leary's legendary cow. The essays discuss works by Saul Bellow, Gwendolyn Brooks, Sandra Cisneros, Clarence Darrow, Erik Larson, David Mamet, Studs Terkel, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Frank Lloyd Wright, and many more. They treat of the grit and graft, which have as much a place in the written imagination, as well as reminding the reader of what makes Chicago, as Norman Mailer called it, the "great American city."

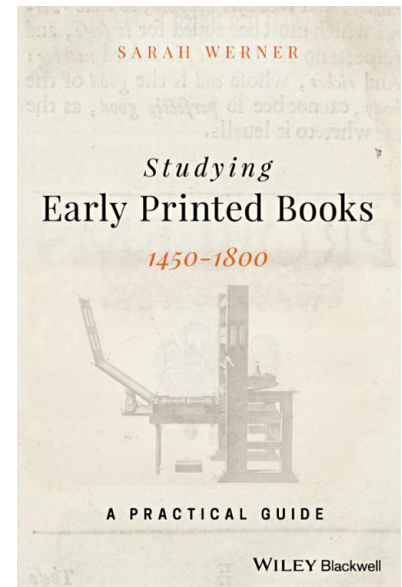
Studying Early Printed Books, 1450–1800: A Practical Guide

Sarah Werner
Wiley, 216 pp., 2019

Studying Early Printed Books 1450–1800: A Practical Guide offers a guide to the fascinating process of how books were printed in the first centuries of the press, and shows how the mechanics of making books shapes how we read and understand them. The author offers an insightful overview of how books were made in the hand-press period and then includes an in-depth

review of the specific aspects of the printing process. She addresses questions such as how paper was made, different book formats, and the mechanics of presses. Text is filled with illustrative examples that demonstrate how understanding the early processes can be helpful to today's researchers.

Studying Early Printed Books shows the connections between the material form of a book (what it looks like and how it was made), how a book conveys its meaning, and how it is used by readers. Werner helps readers navigate books by explaining how to tell which parts of a book are the result of early printing practices and which are a result of later changes. The text also offers guidance on how to approach a book, how to read a catalog record, the difference between using digital facsimiles and books in-hand. Further reader support is found in the glossary, a detailed list of recommended readings, and a companion website.



Upcoming Events

March 2019



The Simplicissimus Story: A Bestseller of the 17th Century – Charles Brown

**Seminole Community Library
9200 113th St. N.
Seminole, FL**

March 10, 2019, 1:30 pm

FBS member Charles Brown will give a presentation entitled “The Simplicissimus Story: A Bestseller of the 17th Century.” The Thirty Years War (1618-1648) was a realignment of power in Europe with devastating consequences for civilian populations, with death rates as high as 50% in some areas. Germany was particularly hard hit. Within a few years of the end of the war, the author Grimmelshausen created Simplicissimus, a nameless peasant who is caught up in the war through a series of misadventures. It was an immediate success, spawning sequels, calendars, and other works, as well as giving German literature an enduring and unforgettable character and inspiring other works of literature into the 20th century.



April 2019



Longfellow in Love: Passion and Tragedy in the Life of the Poet – Ed Cifelli

**Macdonald-Kelce Library
University of Tampa
401 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL**

April 14, 2019, 1:30 pm

FBS member Ed Cifelli will present his new book, *Longfellow in Love* (McFarland, 2018). Ed follows Henry Wadsworth Longfellow as he pursues a series of romances. It begins in 1828, Longfellow’s year in Europe with Giulia Persiani. The following year, back in the U.S., he falls in love with Mary Storer Potter. They married in 1831 and traveled widely, but their happiness was cut short when she died in 1835. During his year of mourning, he met Fanny Appleton. She was an 18-year-old heiress, not interested in settling down with Longfellow, then 29 and a Harvard professor. But he was steadfast, and six years later she changed her mind and married him. For 18 years they were “America’s couple,” and then tragedy struck. Ed will sign copies of his book after his presentation.



Florida Book Events Calendar

Know about any events of interest to book lovers? Send corrections and additions to Charles Brown, cmbrown@atlantic.net

LIBRARY BOOK SALES

For the numerous library book sales around the state and library-operated bookstores, visit

Florida Library Book Sales:

<http://www.booksalefinder.com/FL.html>

MARCH

March 2

BookMania! (est. 1994)

Jensen Beach, FL (<https://www.libraryfoundationmc.org/programs-/bookmania-festival/>)

March 2

Southwest Florida Reading Festival

The Largest One-Day Reading Festival in Florida
Fort Myers, FL (www.readfest.org/)

March 7-8

Ringling Literati Book Club, Sarasota, FL

Mar. 7, 7 PM, New College Cook Library

Mar. 8, 10:30 AM, Ringling Art Library Reading Room

Book of the month: *Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies*, by Ross King

March 15-16

8th Annual Venice Book Fair and Writers Festival

Venice, FL (<http://venicebookfair.com/>)

APRIL

April 4-5

Ringling Literati Book Club, Sarasota, FL

Apr. 4, 7 PM, New College Cook Library

Apr. 5, 10:30 AM, Ringling Art Library Reading Room

Book of the month: *The Unfinished Palazzo: Life, Love and Art in Venice. The Stories of Luisa Casati, Doris Castlerosse and Peggy Guggenheim*, by Judith Mackrell

April 12-14

University of Florida Conference on

Comics and Graphic Novels, Gainesville, FL (est. 2002)

(www.english.ufl.edu/comics/conference.shtml)

April 13, 2016

Tampa-Hillsborough Storytelling Festival,

Tampa (est. 1980)

(tampastory.org/)

SARASOTA AUTHORS CONNECTION

presents

Susan Klaus

“How to Get a Literary Agent and Traditional Publisher for Your Book”



Susan is a Sarasota native who raises thoroughbred horses and rodeo bulls. She began writing in the 1980s, working through years of self-publishing and self-promotion. The hard work paid off with not one but two multibook contracts.

February 20, 6 PM

Fruitville Library, 100 Coburn Rd, Sarasota, FL

April 15-16

Palm Beach Book Festival

West Palm Beach, FL (<http://www.palmbeachbookfestival.com/>)

April 27-May 1

Friends of the Library Book Sale,

Gainesville (est. 1954)

(folacld.org/)

April 26-28

38th annual Florida Antiquarian Book Fair

St. Petersburg, FL (<http://floridabooksellers.com/bookfair.html>)

MAY

May 2-3, 2019

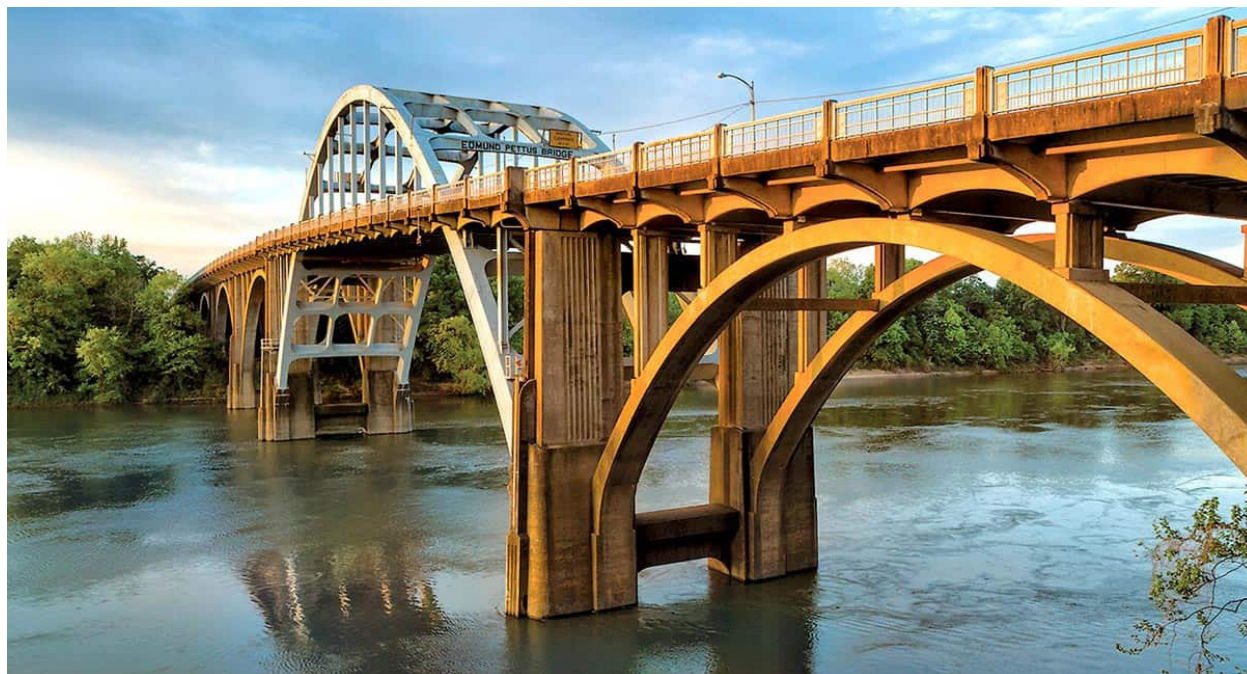
Ringling Literati Book Club, Sarasota, FL

May 2, 7 PM, New College Cook Library

May 3, 10:30 AM, Ringling Art Library Reading Room

Book of the month: *The Collector of Lives: Giorgio Vasari and the Invention of Art*, by Ingrid Rowland





This Month's Writers and Contributors

Many thanks to those who contributed words, pictures, and ideas to this month's newsletter!

David Hall
 Lee Harrer
 Jerry Morris
 Linda Morris
 Maureen Mulvihill
 Jaya Nair
 Carl Mario Nudi
 Gary Simons
 Barry Zack, Sarasota Authors Connection

Have an idea for an article for *The Florida Bibliophile*? Contact Charles Brown, cmbrown@atlantic.net, to submit or for assistance in preparing your article. ➡

Join FBS!

If you love books, take your interest to the next level by joining a group of dedicated book lovers (i.e., bibliophiles). You will meet serious collectors, dealers, scholars, and readers, and you will discover a lively, enjoyable group. You will find contact emails on the last page of this newsletter.



Membership is \$50 per year. You can find a membership form on our website. It will give you the address to which to send your filled-out form and payment.

Joining FBS also makes you a member of our national organization, the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies. ➡

Write for Your Newsletter!



Your input and content are needed. FBS is about participation, about discoveries, about passionate interests, and sometimes the deliciously obscure. Why not write about it!? ➡

Florida Bibliophile Society, 2018–2019 Season



David Hall

September 16 • FBS member Gary Simons gave a presentation on English Literary Annuals. These 19th century annuals were often lavish productions with stories, poems, and illustrations. Gary's collection includes over 200 annuals. Gary retired last year from teaching literature at USF, but he continues to edit the Curran Index, a Victorian Research website.

October 21 • FBS member Ben Wiley gave a presentation on his work as a movie critic. Ben is a retired professor of film and literature at St. Petersburg College whose movie reviews appear regularly in the Tampa magazine *Creative Loafing*. Ben also writes a column, BookStories, in which he reflects on books which have influenced him.

November 18 • Sarasota author Don Bruns is a novelist, songwriter, musician, and advertising executive. Don spoke about his career as a writer and his three successful mystery series: the Quentin Archer Series based in New Orleans; The Stuff Series based in Miami; and the Caribbean Series based in the Caribbean. Don signed books after his presentation.

December 16 • Holiday Party at Joan Sackheim's House. FBS members gathered at Joan's lovely home for an afternoon of fellowship, good food, and fun!

January 13 • FBS member Lisa Bradberry is an expert on the film industry in Florida whose research has appeared in a number of books. Movies were made in Florida, then known as the "Hollywood of the East," beginning in 1907. Lisa gave a presentation on the silent film and early talkie industry in Florida.


February 17 • Wilson Blount, who participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery Civil Rights March along

with John Lewis and many others in 1965, was our guest speaker for Black History Month. Wilson was a junior at Tuskegee University at the time of the march. Upon graduation, he entered the U.S. Air Force as a 2nd lieutenant. He left active duty in 1978, entered civil service at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and joined the Air Force Reserve. He retired as a Colonel in the Air Force Reserve in 1999, and from Civil Service in 2000. He is co-founder of the Gen. Lloyd W. Newton Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen at Kirkland Air Force Base, New Mexico.

March 10 • FBS member Charles Brown will give a presentation entitled "The Simplicissimus Story: A Bestseller of the 17th Century." Simplicissimus was created after the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648), one of the deadliest wars in history. The bumbling soldier Simplicissimus was an immediate success, spawning books, calendars, and other works, as well as giving German literature an enduring and unforgettable character.

April 14 • FBS member Ed Cifelli will give a presentation on his new book, *Longfellow in Love*, published August 2018. Ed will sign copies of his book after his presentation.

April 26-28 • Florida Antiquarian Book Fair. FBS hosts a table at the entrance to the Book Fair. We answer questions and hold parcels. On Sunday, we offer book evaluations. Participating members receive free entrance to the Book Fair.

May 19 • Larry Kellogg, Circus Historian, will be the keynote speaker for the banquet. Larry is based in Florida and is a specialist in circus memorabilia and circus history. The circus has been an important part of Florida and U.S. history for over 200 years. 

All meetings are held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon unless otherwise announced.

Endpaper • We Must Never Forget



On November 11, 2018, we celebrated the centennial of the end of the First World War. H. G. Wells' "war that will end war" ended many things, but not war.

WWI's last veteran, Florence Green, Women's Royal Air Corps, died age 110 in 2012. As time passes, so do the witnesses of the 20th century's momentous events. WWII veterans are passing, as are Holocaust survivors. Their stories are well documented – we can read books or watch movies. The stories share elements, but every one is different, just as many of our experiences are not unique, but they are unique because they are ours.

Only a few hundred people were at the Selma bridge on March 7, 1965, and hearing from one of them is a special opportunity – it's the difference between reading a story and being in dialogue with its author. And that was FBS's opportunity in February when Wilson Blount spoke to us. He was there for the first attempt to march from Selma to Montgomery and again, when they did.

But as they say on TV: but wait, there's more! Wilson's wife Bobbie was in Montgomery as the marchers arrived. Her story helped us understand the terrifying uncertainty of being surrounded by throngs of people and terrifyingly, by mounted troops. She, like Wilson, was very generous with her thoughts and feelings.

But wait, there's more! Wilson and Bobbie's daughter Shana spoke about how she became aware of her parents' involvement in the Civil Rights movement and in the March 1965 events. She was a living portrait of how the authentic memory of important events must be transferred from one generation to the next.

The truth – even historical fact – continues to be attacked. Time makes it easier to take for granted advances that were hard won. The voices of people like Wilson, Bobbie, and Shana become all the more important. It was our privilege to hear those voices.

See you at the bookstore!

— Charles

The Florida Bibliophile Society

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The Florida Bibliophile is the newsletter of the Florida Bibliophile Society, established 1983. It is published monthly from September to May. Correspondence regarding the newsletter and submissions should be sent to: Charles Brown, cmbrown@atlantic.net. www.floridabibliophilesociety.org © 2019 Florida Bibliophile Society

Unattributed material has been prepared by the editor.

The Florida Bibliophile Society is a 501c3 organization. All contributions to FBS are tax deductible.