



Friends to Friends

Supporting and Promoting South County Regional Library

Vol. 1 No. 2

Winter 2005

Making goodness a full partner with knowledge



Author Connie Brown is a retired sacred musician and an active volunteer.

Repercussions of Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*: how notoriety changes an author's life and the lives of his immediate family. Connie Brown, the author's mother, will speak briefly about what it's like to be forced into seclusion. She'll mention why the book caught the imagination of readers.

Women are the eyes *In a Man's World* by Sanibel author Connie Brown. It's through the eyes of the faculty wives and daughters that we gain another view of what was being taught and learned at Phillips Exeter Academy between 1781 and 1981.

Connie Brown arrived at Phillips Exeter in 1963 as the wife of a newly appointed math faculty member. She spent the next 35 years as a spouse on an initially all-male campus, which became coed in 1970. She became fascinated by the stories of the spouses who had served in the 1930's through '50's.

She received a 50 percent response—double the usual—to questionnaires she sent to wives and daughters. One of them, Doris, wrote, "Because I was very young and not considered unattractive, I was upset by a critical, unkind letter by some student anonymously. George Major and the Dean tried to trace it quietly, without success."

Mrs. Brown comments on the women's responses. "Women in the depression era were grateful to have food and housing. In the late '50's and '60's, they were more restless. Not content to sit and wait for a student to ask for help, women at Exeter would seek those whom they could help."

The first women to join the faculty in the '70's were not immediately accepted by some faculty men. Joyce and Sharon reported similar

conversations, at different times.

He: "And what did you used to do, dear?"


Joyce: "I used to teach."

He: "How nice, and what grade was that, dear?"

Joyce: "It was college, actually."

The older faculty member turned on his heels and abruptly walked away.

Connie Brown turns the spotlight on the extraordinary women who have received Exeter's Founder's Day Awards. One of them was Helen Potter Stuckey, the wife of one faculty member and the mother of another. One of her grandsons wrote of her, "She has never seemed an older person to me. She is old, but not older. She can tell me what life was like in the Academy in 1917, but coming from her it is like my friend telling me what it is like living in Abbott Hall as a senior. The past is fresh in her presence; she makes my view of today broader and deeper."

In her dedication to the book, Connie Brown writes, "To all who live and work at boarding schools and who make goodness a full partner with knowledge." 

Connie Brown appears at Friends of SCRL's first annual luncheon February 3 at the Estero Country Club at the Vines on Rt. 41 in Estero. Tickets are \$25 per person, **advance sale only**. Send a check to Friends of SCRL at address on p. 4 and tickets will be mailed to you.



Participate in celebrations of reading, listening and discussion



From the desk of Linda Holland, SCRL regional manager.

South County Regional Library (SCRL) joins with other Lee County libraries during the next few months in actively celebrating different cultures and in recognizing the power and importance of reading. While we honor the cultures of other countries through our *International Celebrations*, we pay tribute to the value of reading and sharing literature together through our “One Book, One Community” initiative.

SCRL is celebrating the culture and contributions of the Russian and Ukrainian people Saturday, Jan. 22.

What if we all read the same book at the same time. “One Book, One Community” is a chance to find out.

Storytelling, dancing, music and crafts are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and a demonstration of the ancient and intricate Ukrainian craft of Pysanky egg decoration will be presented at 12 noon and 2 p.m.

Popular storyteller Katie Adams will share Russian folktales—*The Frog Princess*, *The Firebird* and more—using Matrioshka dolls to enliven her storytelling. Her performances are scheduled at 11:15 a.m., 12:45 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. The Kalyna Ukrainian Dancers, from St. Petersburg, Florida, will perform at 1:15 p.m. and 2:45 p.m., while the Gulfshore Ballet of Fort Myers will entertain at 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon.

The Three Oaks Middle School Orchestra will play at 2:15 and 3:45 p.m., and children will have the opportunity to create Russian and Ukrainian crafts throughout the day.

SCRL’s event is the first of four *International Celebrations* taking place at Lee County libraries throughout January and February. *(To your left are more celebrations.)*

Other International Celebrations

The Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library pays tribute to Japan Jan. 29, while the East County Regional Library celebrates Poland Feb. 5 and the Cape Coral County Public Library honors the Philippines Feb. 12.

SCRL staff is encouraging all SCRL Friends and patrons to begin reading Lee County’s first “One Book, One Community” selection: the Florida family saga, *A Land Remembered* by Patrick D. Smith. “One Book, One Community” is a countywide reading and discussion program encouraging all Lee County residents to read the same book at the same time. More than 250 communities and states are embracing the idea of civic unity through shared reading, and the Lee County Library System has launched the local initiative in the hopes that it will become an annual event.

A Land Remembered tells the story of three generations of the MacIvey family, struggling against the hardships of the Florida frontier. The novel ends in 1968 with Solomon MacIvey realizing that the land has been exploited far beyond human need. Librarian Andrea Carter will lead a discussion of the book at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 1.

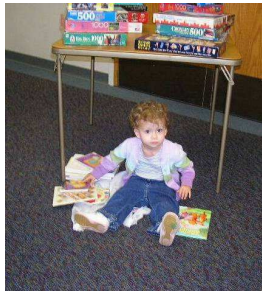
Complementing the issues presented in *A Land Remembered*, a panel discussion on Lee County growth and the environment will be held at SCRL at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 3. Panelists will include Wayne Daltry, director of the Lee County Smart Growth Initiative and Matt Bixler, communications chair for the Babcock Preservation Partnership and environmental policy specialist for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. Ryan Warner of WGPU Public Media will be panel moderator of the event to be broadcast as a segment of “Gulf Coast Live” on WGPU 90.1 FM.

Find out more about “One Book, One Community” with a link on the Lee County Library System web site (www.lee-county.com/library).



Your books earn \$\$ for your library

Attend *Friends of SCRL* Book Sales on February 5 and April 2



Hannah staked out her territory at the Dec. 4 Friends book sale.

People spent just under \$2,000 at the Dec. 4 Friends book sale

343 people visited the sale, including 26 Charter Members who entered between 9:30 and 10 a.m. We sold 31 Book Lovers Calendars and signed up 16 new members. Thanks to Carolyn Piscitello and the wonderful team that made the event such a success!

Bring your books, audio and video tapes, CDs and jigsaw puzzles to the library staff during regular business hours and well before each book sale. Library address, p. 4. 📖

Make money for Friends of SCRL when you shop... online

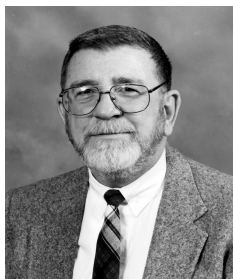
At www.iGive.com/foscr1 (it will say "Friends" at the top) enter your email address to register. Click on "shopping" at top of page. View the list of 585 merchants with amounts of rebate to be earned. Or enter the product you want to buy, and the stores that carry it will be listed. Once purchase transaction is done, the rebate amount is credited to the Friends. Every time \$75 in cumulative rebates have been earned from all supporters who've signed on, a check is sent to Friends of SCRL. *What goes around comes around.* 📖

Join your friends

Pick up membership forms at the South County Regional Library.
Students \$5 Individuals \$15
 Families \$25
Sponsoring Patrons \$50
Corporate/Business Patrons \$100
Civic/Nonprofit Organizations \$50
Lifetime Memberships \$250
We are a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization under IRS rules.
Donations are deductible as allowed by law.

"Village With a Vision"

This program on Estero's history, its current state of development and its future will be presented at South County Regional Library January 26 at 7 p.m. The program is conducted by a team representing the Estero Council of Community Leaders and other community groups. A question and answer period follows. Email Jim Ramsburg at jpramsburg@hotmail.com for more information.



Dr. Ted Childress

History insights at March 2 "Meet the Author"

Dr. Ted Childress, a retired history professor specializing in American Colonial, Civil War, Indian and military history, will offer insights on the impact of World War II on U.S. society. This year is the 50th anniversary of the end of that world conflict. This is the final "Meet the Author" meeting this season. 📖

(Find time and place on page 4.)

Travel beckons at January 19 "Meet the Author"

Bonita Springs resident Diana Hollingsworth Gessler will discuss her book, *Giving Birth to an Illustrated Travel Book*. Combining prose with her own artwork, she enlivens works like *Very California* and *Very Charleston*. She will touch on the stages required in developing an illustrated travel book. 📖

(Find time and place on page 4.)

Friends to Friends

South County Regional Library
21100 Three Oaks Parkway
Estero, Florida 33928

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*Your recipe
will make the
FOSCRL
cookbook a success*

Send your recipes to FOSCRL@aol.com
or bring to the library staff.

Friends of South County Regional Library, Inc.

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Members of the Public Welcome to Meetings and Events

All held at Library except February 3 Luncheon.
See inside newsletter for more information.

January 19 Annual Membership Meeting
Meet author Diana Gessler 2 - 4 p.m.

January 26 "Village With a Vision" Program
Estero Council of Community Leaders
7 - 8:30 p.m.

February 3 First Annual Luncheon at Estero
Country Club at the Vines
In a Man's World by Connie Brown
(A woman's view of an all-boys private academy)
See box on front page for ticket information.
11 a.m - 3 p.m.

February 5 BOOK SALE 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

March 2 General Membership Meeting
Meet author Dr. Ted Childress 2 - 4 p.m.

April 2 BOOK SALE 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.