



ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

"I always imagined heaven would be a kind of library" —Jorge Luis Borges

Mar-Apr 2015

Managing conflict: Friends program offers tips

Along with change, an inescapable fact of life is that conflict is inevitable. It makes some of us flush and squirm, even stutter until, and if, we stabilize enough to verbalize our version of the facts — or fail in our attempt.

Sometimes we successfully engage in civil discourse, avoiding angry words and the encounter goes pretty well.

But if you could stand to polish your dealing-with-conflict skills, come spend an hour on Saturday, Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. at Main Library.

The Friends of Main Library have invited Professor Craig Runde to share some of the successful techniques he teaches as director of the Center for Conflict Dynamics at Eckerd College.



Craig Runde

Director,
Center for Conflict Dynamics,
Eckerd College

He will offer an interactive presentation touching on those inevitable disagreements that occur in our homes, workplaces social encounters.

Prof. Runde also directs the Mediation Training Institute International at Eckerd.

He is the coauthor of *Building Conflict Competent Teams* (2008);

Developing Your Conflict Competence (2010); *Becoming a Conflict Competent Leader-2nd Edition*, and is on the *Journal of Conflict Management* editorial board.

Runde received his B.A. from Harvard University, M.L.L. from the University of Denver, and J.D. from Duke University. He has practiced law in Colorado and has taught at the University of Minnesota Law School and at Wake Forest University.

Everyone is invited to programs hosted by the Friends of Main Library! Join us in the Auditorium.

**3745 Ninth Ave N.
Free admission Refreshments**

Celebrating our Poet Laureate for lifetime of creativity

Peter Meinke, Professor Emeritus of Literature at Eckerd College and Poet Laureate of St. Petersburg, will be honored for lifetime achievement at the Friends of Main Library's March 7th program. Everyone is welcome at this free event, starting at 2 p.m., in Main Library Auditorium.

Award-winning writer Sterling Watson, co-director of Eckerd College's Writers in Paradise conference, will be keynote speaker. This will kick off the 2015 SunLit Festival's annual nine-day Spring

Celebration of literature. It runs this year from March 7-15, culminating with the Florida Antiquarian Book Fair.

Prof. Meinke's extensive creative contributions and hard work earned him the title of St. Petersburg's first Poet Laureate in 2009.

His numerous publications include eight books of poems in the prestigious Pitt Poetry Series, including last year's *Lucky Bones*. His first book of short stories, *The Piano Tuner*, received the Flannery

(Please see *Poet Laureate* Back Page)



Poet Peter Meinke will receive the first annual SunLit Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement in Letters.

The Friends of the Library will present a collection of Mr. Meinke's work for the Library's collection. He will read from his work and have books for autograph and sale.

Friends of the Library

Board of Directors

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We have openings on our Board of Directors. To inquire, contact Friends President Debbie Haslam by email at president@stpetelibraryfriends.com You may also leave general comments at this email. Visit and "like" us at [facebook.com/StPetelibraryFriends](https://www.facebook.com/StPetelibraryFriends)

Calendar Dates with Friends

Friends Board Meeting

Feb. 26, 2015 4-6 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 21, 2015, 2 p.m.

Author/Professor Craig Runde

On Conflict Resolution

Sat., March 7, 2015, 2 p.m.

Peter Meinke, author and poet
St. Petersburg's Poet Laureate

Sat., April 18, 2015

Speaker from Sunken Gardens

Sat., May 9, 2015

Author/Educator **Dr. Mack Hicks**
on the "Elephant" in the classroom

Dues changes announced

Two categories of Membership Dues for the Friends of the Library have changed:

Individual: Now \$20 per year

Family: Now \$30 per year

*Your support is needed,
and appreciated*

Main Library Happenings . . .

Services richly varied — including walk-in tech help

*By Angela Falsey, Acting Librarian II/
Adult Services Coordinator*

Many of Main's library patrons have information needs that go beyond the scope of books on our shelves, or even the Internet access on our computers.

Libraries have always provided referral services; now, through partnerships with various community organizations, we are able to meet those needs here at Main.

Through our partnership with the Pinellas County Healthcare Navigators, over 200 people have received help with applying for health insurance at the library. Another 130 received assistance applying for Medicare from Pinellas County SHINE (Serving Health Insurance

Needs of Elders) volunteers.

We have also hosted representatives from the VA and the Community Law Program. Each of these partnerships has resulted in people getting needed help within a comfortable and convenient location.

In addition to computer classes, we are now offering Walk-in Computer Help, every Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m. Library staff is available to assist with setting up an email account, applying for jobs or assistance, creating resumes, downloading e-books from the library, and more. No appointment is necessary.

Register for computer classes at the Information Services Desk or 727-893-7928. Computers available on first-come, first-served basis.

Is this book club a good match for you?

The Real Deal Book Club focuses on a wide variety of timely nonfiction topics. Past favorites include *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot and *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration* by Isabel Wilkerson. This year the club will highlight biographies, and each summer the club reads books based on the library's summer reading theme. This summer's theme is heroes. The Real Deal Book Club meets the last Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Each month's book can be picked-up at the Main Library front desk.

Roll Over and Read: Patient canine tutors help

Learning to read with confidence is an important building block for future success. Children who are building their reading skills benefit from regular practice. And at Main Library they can come with their parent or guardian to read to one of our reading therapy dogs! Young readers can practice with a patient, attentive friend in a relaxed atmosphere. The four-legged reading tutors, part of the Therapy

Dogs International reading program or Intermountain Therapy Animals R.E.A.D. Program, will help children gain confidence in their reading.

The program is in Main's Storytime Room on the 1st Monday of the month at 3:30 pm. There are also sessions available at our community libraries. Please call 727-892-5296 for more information or to register for a 15-minute session with one of our fuzzy friends.



So many ways to enjoy 'lit' at this year's SunLit Festival

Literary junkies: Feast at this buffet! After opening with the salute to Poet Laureate Peter Meinke at the Friends of Main Library's March 7 program meeting, SunLit Festival offers many more chances to get "lit." More details can be found at 727-518-5142 and <http://www.sunlitfestival.org/>.

Organizations participating in SunLit Festival operate autonomously to produce their own events, and are solely responsible for them. Price varies by event. **2015 Schedule:**

Sat., Mar. 7, 7 p.m.

Lucha Libro: Eight of Tampa Bay's most daring writers pair off in live literary combat! Each pair is given a random prompt and have five minutes to create an original piece of written brilliance, right before your eyes! Theatricality and costumes encouraged. Oleson Gallery Bloom Art Center, 910 5th Ave N. Free.

Sun., Mar. 8, 6 p.m.

Karla Harris: Songs and stories about the great composer Dave Brubeck, who wrote with his wife, jazz lyricist Lola Brubeck. Side Door Café, Palladium Theater, 253 5th Ave. N. Tickets: Gen. Admission \$22; Reserved \$30.

Mon., Mar. 9, 5:30 p.m.

Mirror Lake Library celebrates its 100th Anniversary! Author and USF Librarian James Schnur on how the area around the Carnegie Library at Mirror Lake became the first cultural and educational complex of the Sunshine City. Mirror Lake Library, 280 5th St. N. Free.

Mon., Mar. 9, 6 p.m.

Behind Baby Talk: Dr. James McHale details the real reason why reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers is so crucial. Childs Park YMCA, 691 43rd St. S. Free.

Tues., Mar. 10, 8 p.m.

Fiction Live: Local actors pair up with local writers! Writers submit short stories or excerpts from novels and the actors present a dramatic reading. The Studio@620, 620 First Ave S. Tickets: \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. Benefits *Project Shattered Silence*, a teen theater/storytelling project.

Wed., Mar. 11, 7 p.m.

SunLit Pub Crawl: Four dead writers. Seven living writers. Love. Hate. Life. Death. Hilarious laughter. Here's where literature meets the street. A moveable feast and traveling circus with stops at an avant-garde coffee shop, an authentic Cuban restaurant, and a favorite local micro-brewery, and more.

Thurs., Mar. 12, 4 p.m.

Books that Changed Our Lives: The Secrets of Formative Reading: Poynter Institute's renowned writing coach, Roy Peter Clark, will lead readers of all ages to come, think about and write about the books that changed their lives. The Poynter Institute, 801 Third St. S. Free.

Thurs., Mar. 12, 8 p.m.

Shakespeare Festival Opening Night, As You Like It: One of The Bard's most popular comedies as you've never seen it before opens St. Petersburg Shakespeare Festival's inaugural season. Original music by Los Angeles music industry veteran Mark Matthews. USF St. Pete, 140 7th Ave S. Pay what you can. Performances: Mar. 12-15, Mar. 19-22.

Fri., Mar. 13, 5-9 p.m.

Florida Antiquarian Book Fair: The 34th Fair features rare and unusual books, antiquarian maps and prints, vintage photographs, ephemera, historical autographs. More than 100 antiquarian book dealers. St. Petersburg Coliseum, 535 4th Ave. N. Tickets \$10 for weekend or \$6 per day on Fri., Sat. and Sun.



A spring celebration of literature in the Sunshine State.

Sat., Mar. 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Florida Antiquarian Book Fair

Sat., Mar. 14, 6:30 p.m.

Poetry Night Hike: Local poets read their works during the Boyd Hill Poetry Night Hike. Boyd Hill Nature Park, 1101 Country Club Way S. \$3 adults; \$1.50 children.

Sat., Mar. 14, 7:30 p.m.

Jack Kerouac Night: A celebration of his life, times and art at the bar where he had his last drink. Beat poetry and a full night of great jazz. Flamingo Bar, 1230 Martin Luther King St. N. Free admission.

Sun., Mar. 15, 11-4 p.m.

Florida Antiquarian Book Fair

Sun., Mar. 15, 2 p.m.

Pass the Plate -1st Annual FHM Passover Cook-off. Special recipes from local Survivors that help keep our links to the past alive. Taste the dishes and vote for favorites. Author Joanne Caras will share compiling *The Holocaust Survivor Cookbook*. Florida Holocaust Museum, 55 5th St. S. Free Admission.

Sun., Mar. 15, 7 p.m.

Get Lit with Keep St. Pete Lit: Part game night, part night at the bar – take the challenge of word-minded games. The Amsterdam, 1049 Central Ave. Free admission.

**Help support your Library by joining the Friends of Main
Membership form inserted in this issue**

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

c/o Public Library
3745 Ninth Ave. N.
St. Petersburg FL 33713-6001

Mar. – Apr. 2015 Issue

Main Library Phone: 727-893-7724

Main Library website: www.splibraries.org

Main Library Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday:

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday:

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday: Noon - 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Friends programs:

Sat., Feb. 21, 2015, 2 p.m.

Author/Professor Craig Runde

Conflict Resolution for home and workplace

Sat., March 7, 2015, 2 p.m.

Peter Meinke, author and poet

SunLit Festival Award Honoree

Sat., April 18, 2015, 2 p.m.

Speaker from Sunken Gardens

Sat., May 9, 2015, 2 p.m.

Author/Educator Dr. Mack Hicks

“Elephant” in the classroom insights

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Poet Laureate continued from Page 1

O'Connor Award. In the last few years, the U. of Tampa has published his *Lines from Neuchâtel: 35th Anniversary Edition* (2009); *The Shape of Poetry: A Practical Guide to Writing & Reading Poems* (2012); and 2013's *Truth and Affection: The 'Poet's Notebook' Columns from Creative Loafing*. All were illustrated by his wife, Jeanne Meinke.

He also has published two children's books, a monograph on the poet Howard Nemerov, eight poetry chapbooks and the bilingual collection of poems, *Maples & Orange Trees*, that was published in St. Petersburg, Russia (2005). His work has appeared in *Poetry*, *The Atlantic*,

The New Republic, *The New Yorker* and dozens of literary magazines.

Among numerous awards are two NEA Fellowships, three prizes from the Poetry Society of America, two O'Henry Awards, and many others.

In 2009 he was appointed the first Poet Laureate of St. Petersburg, where he and his wife have lived since 1966.

For many years he taught courses in Literature and Creative Writing. He also directed the Writing Workshop at Eckerd College. Prof. Meinke's website is at www.petermeinke.com

Thank-you to members

Many thanks to the following who have paid for membership for 2015 as Friends of the Main Library:

Alton and Mary Babin, **Mozelle Bell**, **Thin Corpe**, **Dr. Mack Hicks**, **Gertrude James**, **Richard & Margery Kaniss**, **Dr. Morrie and Marilyn LeVine**, **Cheryl MacNeill**, **Jack & Ruth McCullough**, **Jim & Sharon Moorhead**, **Carol Morton**, **Ann Reider (Life membership)**, **Gabriel & Mary Riontino**, **William Rollins**, **Linn Sennott** and **Genine Thompson**.

The Friends of Main Library congratulate and thank Peter Meinke for sharing his teaching and creative talent in our community.

Friends of the Main Library . . .

Invite you to attend our upcoming programs held in the auditorium at Main Library. Admission is free.



Mark your calendar:

Sat., Feb. 21, 2015, 2 p.m.

Author and Eckerd College Professor Craig Runde on managing conflict

Sat., Mar. 7, 2015, 2 p.m.

Award honoring lifetime achievements of Peter Meinke, author, Eckerd professor (ret.) and Poet Laureate of St. Petersburg; readings and kick-off of 2015 SunLit Festival

Sat., April 18, 2015, 2 p.m.

Speaker from Sunken Gardens

Sat., May 9, 2015, 2 p.m.

Author, educator, psychologist Dr. Mack Hicks
Elephant in the Classroom (pub. Jan. 2015)

Main Library, 3745 Ninth Ave. N, St. Petersburg

Light refreshments follow

Friends of the Library, Inc. St. Petersburg Main Library

We are a 501(c) (3) nonprofit group whose purpose is to support the library through volunteerism, fund-raising activities, and sponsorship of programs and services. Your membership offers you the opportunity to get involved, share thoughts and lend your talents to the library – a priceless resource. Friends meeting dates vary, generally October through April, in Main Library Auditorium. *What we do:*

- Support the library to help make it a vital part of our community
- Fund summer reading programs
- Purchase books, equipment, furnishings and other materials
- Support library programs for new parents, children of all ages, teens, adults and families
- Host author visits, guest speakers and cultural events

To join the Friends and support library programs and services, please complete this application and mail it with a check payable to Friends of the Library at 3745 Ninth Ave. N, St. Petersburg, FL 33713-6001

YES! I want to be a **Friend of the Library!** () new () annual renewal [Jan-Dec 2015]

Name _____ Phone _____ Date _____

Address _____ Email _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Membership choice: () Individual \$20 () Family \$30 () Life \$150 () Business/Corporate \$100

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____ Membership is annual - January through December

I can help with: () hospitality () fundraising () newsletter () programs () membership () publicity