

SPRING VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER; FIRST EDITION, VOL.10: JANUARY 2015

WELCOMING OUR NEW LIBRARY DIRECTOR

New Director, Rebecca Schmitt

Elizabeth Steans resigned the last day of December 2014 having served two years as the director of the Spring Valley Public Library. Over the course of her tenure she accomplished many things. The most visible change is, undoubtedly, the remodel. Additionally, through Steans' efforts, circulation increased, great strides were made in the implementation of our policy manual and community programming reached new heights.

We saw many authors visit while Elizabeth was here, including: Jan Brett, Jacqueline West, Norma Welty, Barbara Sommerville, Chad Lewis, and the bard himself, William Shakespeare! Well, maybe that last one was an impersonator, but it was a good time nevertheless. We are sad to see her go and sincerely wish her the best.

Succeeding Elizabeth will be a familiar face, Rebecca Schmitt. Rebecca has worked at the Spring Valley Public Library for six years cumulatively, and as a result will bring a deep knowledge of the collection and community with her.



Elizabeth Steans (left) with Rebecca Schmitt (right)

A Spring Valley native, having grown up a patron of the library while it was still under the direction of Doris Ronnander (who was also Rebecca's first instructor) she will continue on in the tradition of her predecessors having had the privilege to work closely with each of them.

Rebecca officially assumes the role of library director January 5, and has a busy schedule from the start. However, we encourage all patrons to stop by, say hello, and welcome her if you have not yet had the pleasure to make her acquaintance. Oh, and just to put everyone's mind at ease, Ben is still here, too.

LIBRARY UPDATES

Library Board Meeting: This month's library board meeting will be Thursday, January 8 at 6pm. This is a public meeting and all patrons are welcome.

Thank You Class of 1981: We'd like to extend a huge thank you to the Spring Valley Class of 1981 for their generous donation in memory of Glenda Christiansen (LaGrandier).

Self-Checkout Coming this Month: Later this January we will be installing a self-checkout station across from the hold pick-up shelf for your convenience.

Coin-Op Installed on Copier: In December we installed a coin-op machine next to the copier. From now on patrons must be prepared to pre-pay for their copies.

Jan Brett Drawing: Jan Brett left us the signed picture she drew at her presentation last month. It has been framed and will soon be put up for display at the library. Come in and see!

Family History Resources: Did you know you had free access to Ancestry.com? At the library, patrons can build their family tree by accessing census lists, marriage and death records. In addition, our MORE page also grants access to seven local databases; including the Wisconsin Historical Society. Using their image search you may find a photo of an ancestor! Need help? Feel free to ask.

Join us on Goodreads: Virtually browse our book orders, follow the A-Z Challenge, and converse with your fellow patrons.

Popular Titles Coming Out January;
It's a New Year, no need to be wary!



The Week of January 5

As Chimney Sweepers Come to Dust by Alan Bradley
Insatiable Appetites by Stuart Woods
Golden Son by Pierce Brown
Dead of Winter by Kresley Cole
Firefight by Brandon Sanderson
Ensnared by A.G. Howard
The Third Target by Joel C. Rosenberg

The Week of January 12

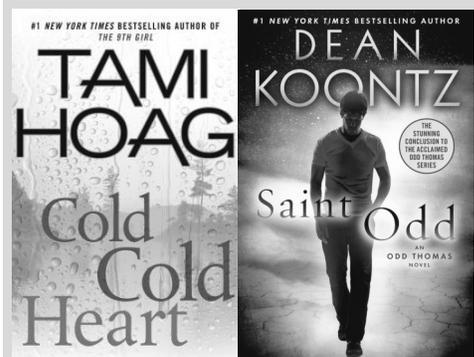
Saint Odd by Dean Koontz
The Girl on the Train by Paul Hawkins
The Darkest Part of the Forest by Holly Black
Cold Cold Heart by Tami Hoag
The Empire of Necessity by Greg Grandin
Dirty Rush by Taylor Bell

The Week of January 19

First Frost by Sarah Addison Allen
Cane and Abe by James Grippando
Dead Red by Tim O'Mara

The Week of January 26

Private Vegas by James Patterson
The Mime Order by Samantha Shannon
I Was Here by Gayle Forman
The Great Zoo of China by Matthew Reilly
A Cold Legacy by Megan Shepherd
Beyond Limits by Laura Griffin
All Fall Down by Ally Carter



THE A-Z READING CHALLENGE IS UPON US

A New Year's Resolution

January is a time of year where we all like to set nigh impossible goals for ourselves. Well, they're not so much impossible as they are really hard things that generally require us to alter our lifestyles in a positive manner, which for some reason or another we have failed to do in the past; more than likely chocolate was involved, well, maybe just for some of us!

Sometimes we succeed and often we stumble, but after a short while we all fall inevitably into a pattern. Whether it is the new or old it will most likely stick with us through the year, dictating the outcome of our varied goals. Still, for at least one month a year we are all very serious about our resolutions—as we should be. January is a fresh start. We can be anything we want to be in 2015. Personal growth runs parallel to ambition. So let's be ambitious!

By now, you've probably set a bevy of goals: financial goals, health goals, educational goals etc, but there is most likely one area you haven't thought to tackle yet: your reading goals. Since we always

have your best interests at heart, the Spring Valley Public Library has devised an incredible program to help you grow as a reader in 2015: the A-Z Reading Challenge.

The aim is simple: read 26 books, each written by an author whose surname begins with a different letter of the alphabet, (A through Z) and keep track of your progress either online or at the library. The challenge will be a year-long engagement. That means to complete it you only need to read one book every two weeks. That sounds feasible right? You're a reader already. Why not raise the stakes? Be adventurous this year!

Through this exciting goal-oriented program you will find in yourself the means to take your reading life to new heights by discovering new authors, catching up on the classics, or reveling in obscure novels, all while journeying alongside others who have chosen to take up the challenge.

There will be three ways to participate: 1) Simply take one of our A-Z Booklist forms and complete it at home on your

own. 2) Keep your form here at the library to fill in as you visit. 3) Join Ben on Goodread's (find the link on our facebook page) and follow his quest as you keep tally of your own titles virtually and share your experiences with other patrons online.

So why not give this thing a shot? There's nothing to lose and, when it comes to books, you have world's to gain! Ask about the A-Z Reading Challenge today, because it's cold outside and there's nothing else to do til Spring.

Lastly, we'd like you to ponder this quote from Samuel Clemens who once said: "The man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read." Don't be that man—or woman. You don't want a dead ornery Mark Twain haunting your dreams.

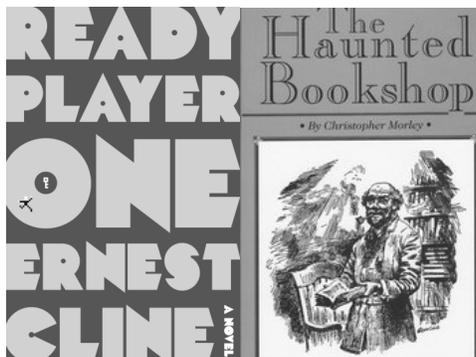
Happy New Year and Happy Reading!



Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

The *Oasis* is a virtual realm that most people use to escape their everyday lives. In the *Oasis*, an outcast can be a celebrity, or a poor man a king. This particular story follows a certain Wade Watts and his attempts to unlock the hidden fortune embedded into the *Oasis* by its eccentric, 80's obsessed, designer, before the rest of the world can catch up. *Ready Player One* is a frighteningly realistic look at what the world *could* potentially become in this age of disconnect, where it is often easier to live online than to confront our realities.

HERE BE BOOK REVIEWS



The Haunted Bookshop by C. Morley

Set in a dingy Brooklyn bookshop, run by a passionate bibliophile, the novel's plot is driven mostly by the sleuth work of a love-struck advertising agent who, infatuated with the bookseller's beautiful assistant, has made it his mission to protect her from the sinister schemes he believes are brewing under their noses. Published in 1919, the novel serves as a comic time piece of post-war sentiment and life. Unflinchingly optimistic, especially regarding literature, *The Haunted Bookshop* is an inspiringly insightful read for book lovers.

Notable Authors Born in January

Jan. 1—E.M Forster Jan. 1—J.D. Salinger Jan. 2—Isaac Asimov Jan. 3—J.R.R. Tolkien
Jan. 4—Carl Sandburg Jan. 4—Jacob Grimm Jan. 5—Umberto Eco Jan. 8—Wilkie Collins
Jan. 12—Jack London Jan. 12—Charles Perrault Jan. 14—Hugh Lofting Jan. 17—Anne Bronte
Jan. 17—Michael Bond Jan. 18—A.A Milne Jan. 19—Edgar Allen Poe
Jan. 24—Edith Wharton Jan. 25—Robert Burns Jan. 25—William Somerset Maugham
Jan. 25—Virginia Woolf Jan. 27—Lewis Carroll Jan. 30—Lloyd Alexander Jan. 31—Zane Grey



"They who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night." - Edgar Allen Poe (Eleonora)
"It is better to arm and strengthen your hero, than to disarm and enfeeble your foe." - Anne Bronte (The Tenant of Wildfell Hall)

Remember to like us on Facebook so that you can keep up-to-date with us throughout the month. For more information you can also visit our website at www.springvalleylibrary.org. If you have any questions regarding our events or services simply call us at 715-778-4590 or email Rebecca at schmitt@svlibrary.org. Thank you for reading and we hope to see you all again soon. .