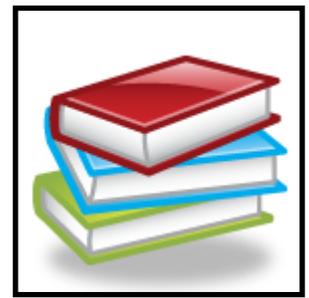


# CHAPEL LIBRARY

## Jottings



FEBRUARY 2015

edited by  
Edna Strnad



“It’s too bad if a heart lacks fire,  
and is deprived of the light  
of a heart ablaze.  
The day on which you are  
without passionate love  
is the most wasted day of your life.”

Omar Khayyam \*\*



### ALL THESE THINGS WE BRING YOU IN FEBRUARY

St. Valentine’s Day is almost here and that’s the signal for the Library Committee to welcome you to a Celebration with tea and a stirring performance given by our favorite Barbara Rinella on **February 13 at 2:30 pm**. Please come, enjoy and share the fun. Our “main attraction” is a favorite here and she is always a hit. You won’t want to miss it.

On another day take advantage of our Library for the latest books and videos. There is so much to enjoy and learn, tucked into our shelves.

Of course we look forward to this month’s book discussion led by John O’Neill on **February 9 at 9:30 am**. The book is *One Summer: America, 1927* by Bill Bryson. I’m sure it will be a lively discussion. John loves to have all of us share our thoughts and views, so read, come, and enjoy. See you soon.

Doris Jones  
Chair

### POPULAR ARTIST EXHIBITS IN FEBRUARY



No stranger to Lost Tree, Peggy Kirkwood will be exhibiting her recent works in February, mainly watercolors but other media as well. A longtime faculty member of the Lighthouse Art Center in Tequesta, Peggy supervised the art projects for the Chapel Sunday School when she and her husband were Chapel members during the seven years of Dr. Wenning’s pastorate here – lucky children! At Lighthouse, in addition to her watercolor class for adults, she is especially enthusiastic about a class she is teaching to special needs children with Down syndrome, autism and so forth.

In recent years we have missed Peggy and her husband at our Chapel services and so it will be a special pleasure to welcome them at the exhibition reception honoring Peggy after the Chapel service on February 15. Her current exhibition will be hung on February 9.





## BARBARA RINELLA WILL BE YOUR VALENTINE!

At the Tea and Talk on February 13 this charismatic book dramatist and reviewer will surprise you with a 2015 book and character she will artfully portray. This will be the 26<sup>th</sup> year that Barbara Rinella has brought her one woman show to Lost Tree Chapel dramatizing current literature and bringing characters to life, inspiring her audiences to learn and laugh. Of course, the title of the book remains a secret until she appears on stage. Don't miss it!

The 30th Thank You Valentine program is a gift from the Library to you and we welcome any gifts from you in support of our programs.

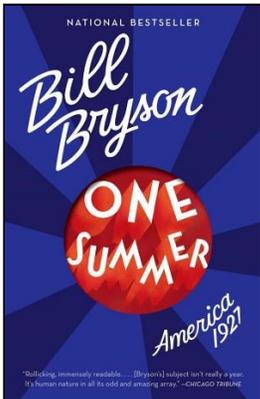
Queen Elizabeth  
Performed  
February 14, 2014



Join us on Friday,  
February 13, 2015  
2:30 pm at the Chapel to  
meet our mystery guest.



*"If you've got a cozy mystery, and a dog is introduced, readers' first question is, 'Does the dog die?' They never ask about a cat. They know that the first rule of cozies is: The Cat Never Dies."* – K.B. Inglee, mystery writer"



### JOHN O'NEILL BOOK DISCUSSION

FEBRUARY 9 at 9:30 am

The devoted followers of book discussion leader, John O'Neill, are in luck because our neighbor and friend John will be back on February 9 leading a discussion of Bill Bryson's book *One Summer: America, 1927*. John has led discussions on everything from books about Navy SEALs (*Lone Survivor*) to dogs (*Dogs That Know When Their Owners Are Coming Home: and Other Unexplained Powers of Animals*) to the career of a famous bank robber (*Sutton*). Last year he led an enthusiastic discussion of *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown.

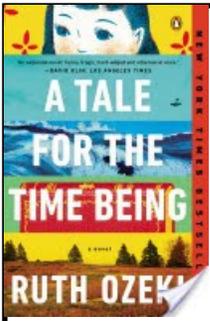
John's choice this year, *One Summer: America, 1927*, promises to make for an equally compelling discussion. Cited by some as acclaimed author Bill Bryson's finest work, the significant happenings of 1927 are certainly material for a lively discussion. John would like you to read the book before attending but you could, if necessary, play hooky on that and come anyway! Remember the discussion time is 9:30 a.m. on February 9.

*"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert."*  
— Andrew Carnegie

### Editor's Notes-Book Reviews

Both of the books reviewed by Helen Hunting and Janet Bornhoeft in this month's Jottings are wonderful "reads" and both were in the running for their nation's top book award. First is Janet Bornhoeft's review of *A Tale for the Time Being* which was a finalist for Great Britain's 2013 Man Booker Award. Helen Hunting has reviewed *All the Light We Cannot See* nominated for our National Book Award in Fiction in 2014. So popular is the latter that Martha McNeil will be leading a discussion of it in April. You will enjoy these two sensitive reviews and the pleasure of reading two beautifully written books!

Edna



## A TALE FOR THE TIME BEING

by Ruth Ozeki

In a nutshell, this is an enjoyable book about a 16-year old Japanese girl who writes a diary in a Tokyo café and puts it inside a cover that reads “In Search of Lost Time” by Proust. Her diary, carefully wrapped in a Hello Kitty lunchbox with a watch and some letters, amazingly finds its way to the waters off of British Columbia where it is discovered by a Japanese-American author. The book skillfully carries the reader across the ocean and time as Nao writes and Ruth reads the diary.

We learn that Nao has been raised in Silicon Valley until her technically savvy father lost his job. Then the family moves to a tiny apartment in Japan where her father is unable to find work and Nao is bullied unmercifully by her new classmates. Both spiral downward into depression that each separately contemplates suicide in sections that can be a little disturbing. However, Nao is determined to stay alive until she can tell her diary’s reader about her 104-year-old grandmother who is a Buddhist monk and her son who was a kamikaze pilot.

Ruth, who is suffering writer’s block in contrast to Nao’s fluidity with words, becomes entranced by Nao’s story as does her husband. She discovers that the watch she found belonged to the Kamikaze pilot as did the letters which are written in French. She wonders how the diary reached her and what has happened to Nao. Did she survive the tsunami and earthquake that hit Japan? Did she commit suicide or is she now a grown up woman? Did her father survive?

The title implies that this book is a simple tale. However, Man Booker Prize Finalists like this one (2013), are never uncomplicated. Zen moments, quantum mechanics, Einstein’s “entanglements”, a cat, and a possibly magical crow are woven into the fabric of this book while it examines time and “the time being” from different angles. Nao states “everything changes and everything is possible” and I suggest you hold those thoughts in mind as you read this unusual, fast-paced, beautifully written novel.

Janet Bornhoeft



*“the bible gives me a deep comforting sense that things seen are temporal, and things unseen are eternal.”*

Helen Keller, *The Story of My Life*

## ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE

by Anthony Doerr

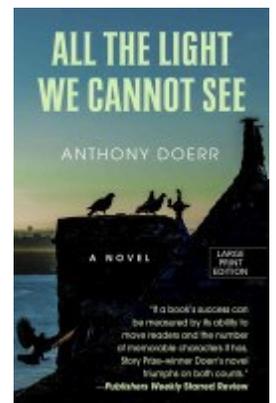
Seldom do I want to reread a book to digest the sheer beauty of its composition. Anthony Doerr spent ten years crafting this masterpiece, and it’s one of the best books I’ve read in a long time. His sense of physical descriptions and metaphors are dazzling, and the reader is captured from the onset.

This is the story of two teenagers from opposite sides of World War II, whose paths eventually come together in the war torn walled city of Saint Malo, Breton. Marie-Laure LeBlanc, blind since age six, lives in Paris with her adoring Father, who works at the Museum of Natural History as master of the locks. He builds her an intricate model of the neighborhood so she can memorize by touch, and learn to navigate the city streets on her own. He also provides her with books in Braille, which further stimulates her curiosity and independence. Father and daughter flee to a great uncle’s house in Saint Malo when the Germans occupy Paris in 1944.

On the other side is Werner Pfennig, a young German who grows up in an orphanage with his beloved sister, Jutta. They find an abandoned radio which Werner repairs, and ultimately leads to his future as a master radio technician. He avoids his fate of being sent to the coal mines because of a recommendation to an elite, but brutal, Nazi military school. He is swept up into the Nazi movement, forced to join the army, and becomes a resistance tracker in Saint Malo. While trapped in the wreckage of a hotel bombed by the Americans, he hears the voice of Marie-Laure reading a story over the radio.

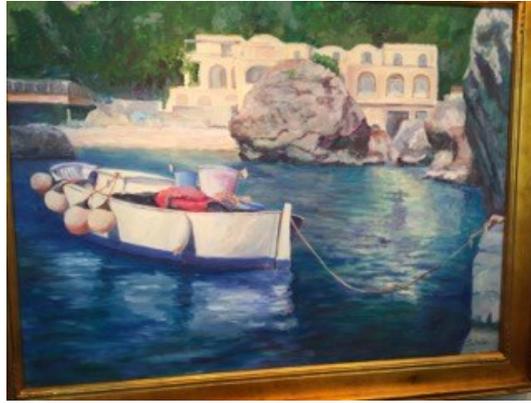
The author weaves an intriguing tale of two lives caught up in the evils of war, and how they perceive the world around them. Marie-Laure’s love for the sea, the informer who turns in her Uncle, the priceless diamond her Father kept for the museum...are all part of this page turner. Only in a book like this can you step out of yourself, and become totally transformed. ‘The light we cannot see’ is clearly the light of goodness in the face of evil.

Helen Hunting

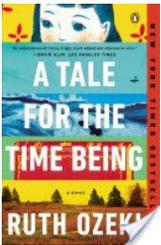


## CHAPEL ART

In case you miss the Art Committee's January showing, Dr. Bill Sabino, a "Contemporary Impressionist", exhibited his diverse selection of paintings. Shown below left to right are "Amalfi Card Players", "On Point", "Assasi Villa" and "Jupiter Light".



## NEW ACQUISITIONS – BOOKS



\* A Tale for the Time Being

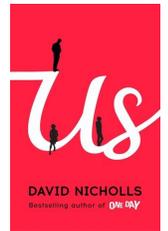
Ozeki, Ruth

One Summer: America, 1927

Bryson, Bill

Us

Nicholls, David



\* This is an inscribed edition sent to the Chapel Library by the author.

## AUDIO

One Summer: America, 1927

Bryson, Bill

## DVD

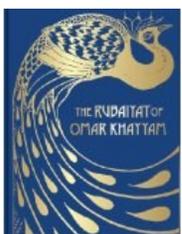
Christmas Candle



Dolphin Tale 2

Dragon 2

Lego Movie



**\*\* Omar Khayyám** was a Persian polymath, mathematician, philosopher, astronomer, physician, and poet. He wrote treatises on mechanics, geography, and music. His significance as a philosopher and teacher, and his few remaining philosophical works, have not received the same attention as his scientific and poetic writings. Zamakhshari referred to him as "the philosopher of the world". Many sources have testified that he taught for decades the philosophy of Ibn Sina, a Persian physician and philosopher whose medical textbook, *Cannons of Medicine*, greatly influenced European medical studies until the 17th century.