



February Branch Meeting
A Visit With Edgar Allan Poe
Rob Velella
February 11, 2016 9:30 AM
Municipal Meeting Room
Murrysville Community Library
4100 Sardis Road

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Poet, author, and literary critic Edgar Allan Poe rises for this special reading! One of the most imaginative writers of the 19th century, best known for his poems of mystery, horror and the macabre, Poe was also a prolific author of short stories, science fiction, and detective fiction. Many of his works, still familiar after more than 150 years, are now being republished as graphic novels.

Mr. Poe will be portrayed by Rob Velella, an independent literary historian and playwright specializing in American literature of the 19th century. Velella has published articles and presented academic papers on figures as varied as Margaret Fuller, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Walt Whitman. He has lectured at various historical sites, libraries, and colleges from Pennsylvania to Maine and contributed to museum exhibits at the Boston Public Library and Harvard University's Houghton Library. In ongoing efforts to familiarize today's readers with 19th century authors, Velella's portrayals of literary figures Nathaniel Hawthorne and Edgar Allan Poe were featured on National Public Radio and in the Los Angeles Review of Books. Join us and hear Rob Velella bring to life Edgar Allan Poe while reading from Poe's works.

I wish I could write as mysterious as a cat.
— Edgar Allan Poe

With me poetry has not been a purpose, but
a passion.
— Edgar Allan Poe

I have no faith in human perfectibility. I think
that human exertion will have no appreciable
effect upon humanity. Man is now only more
active - not more happy - nor more wise, than
he was 6000 years ago.
— Edgar Allan Poe

President's Letter

Sally Lipsky's talk was, without a doubt, one of our most interesting and informative talks we have ever had! Many of us knew some of the facts she gave us, but she put it all together in such a way that was inspiring to even the worst eater! It made me want to change my eating habits in the hope that I could improve my health and physical well-being. Thank you Sally for sharing your abundant, well researched knowledge with us! I needed that! I was very pleased at our attendance at the meeting. There are many of us interested in a healthy diet.

We also owe a special thanks to those members who volunteered to take boxes of books to Half-Price Books. It really is an easy task, especially if you plan on being in Monroeville anyway. Half-Price Books is a great place to browse while you're waiting for them to tally up the money, so it is a win-win situation.

Speaking of books, I hope there is someone out there who would be willing to take over the Book Sale Chairmanship. I hate to see the Book Sale end, but it will if no one steps forward to lead it. We all like working on the Book Sale, but someone to coordinate all of our efforts is needed. Carol has volunteered to mentor the new chair, and has wonderful, explicit notes and reports on how it has been accomplished in the past. Her guidance will help the new chair ease into the position.



Elections are coming up. We will be electing a new President, Program Vice President and Secretary. Our Assistant Program Chairman is willing to assume the Program Vice President position, but nominations for President and Secretary are still open. Please, if you have any inkling of wanting to do either of these jobs, CALL ME! Or if you want to nominate anyone, I must have their approval in writing. Again, CALL ME! We will nominate in March, vote in April and the new officers take over during the May meeting. And of course, you know that the previous person who held that position will always be there to help you.

See you in February for Edgar Allen Poe!

Sally



We Believe in Book Sales

There is no question, when we, as a group, discuss what our branch of AAUW is about, one of the first things mentioned is The Book Sale. It is our contribution to the community, the Murrysville Library, and ourselves. It's who we are.

We know how to do this and have plenty volunteers with a great deal of experience.

We have no chairman, and without one the sale will not continue in 2016.

Please consider taking this opportunity to chair the sale; a short term job with a big reward. If you are attracted to the challenge, please get in touch with me to discuss it.

Carol Gezon

Reading for Pleasure

February's Reading for Pleasure selection is Christina Baker Kline's *Orphan Train*, an unforgettable story of friendship and second chances that highlights a little-known, but historically significant movement in America's past. Join us on February 25 at 10:00 am at the MCL Meeting Room where Lane Neff will lead the discussion.



Marge Hanes

SNOW POLICY

If Franklin Regional Schools are canceled,
AAUW meetings are cancelled



Healthy Eating

As a followup to our January Branch Meeting, Sally has graciously supplied a recipe to try. Enjoy!

Cornbread

Ingredients:

1 c. cornmeal
1 c. flour
1 Tbsp. baking powder
1 tsp. cinnamon (optional)
1 c. unsweetened soy or almond milk
¼ c. unsweetened applesauce
¼ c. maple syrup or agave nectar

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Set aside 9-inch square baking pan (lined with parchment paper or lightly oiled) or nonstick pan. In a bowl, whisk cornmeal, flour, baking powder, and optional cinnamon. Add soy or almond milk, applesauce, and maple syrup to combine. Pour into pan; bake 18-20 minutes, until an inserted toothpick comes out clean.

(from Lindsay Nixon, Happy Herbivore)

Great Decisions

Just a reminder that the GREAT DECISIONS discussions will run every Wednesday at 10:00 in the Murrysville Municipal Community Room starting March 2, 2016 thru April 27, 2016 with no meeting on March 23, 2016 – eight weeks in all.




The topics are as follows:

Shifting Alliances in the Middle East
The Rise of ISIS
The Future of Kurdistan
International Migration
Korean Choices
The United Nations Post-2015
Climate Geopolitics
Cuba and the U.S.

Email MurrysvilleAAUW@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Annie Rivers

February 2016

4	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Board Meeting – Municipal Meeting Room† Board Members, please email Sally if you cannot attend.
11	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Branch Meeting – Municipal Meeting Room† Bring a guest!
14	Sun.		
15	Mon.		Focus Deadline – Email articles to Donna Beard.
25	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Reading for Pleasure in the Municipal Meeting Room.
26	Fri.	10:00 AM	Duplicate Bridge at the home of Donna Beard. Please let her know if you cannot attend.

† The Municipal Meeting Room is located at the entrance to the Murrysville Community Library, 4100 Sardis Road.



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