


The NOTIFLYER

Newsletter # 51

The FRIENDS of the MIMS / SCOTTSMOOR LIBRARY

May 2, 2012

MEMORIES OF BREVARD

Thursday, May 17 at 6:30pm – Experience real-life history as Laurilee Thompson, a fifth-generation Floridian, shares her adventures along the Indian River Lagoon. Her presentation begins as she recalls the 1950s. She will introduce us to a more primitive and pristine lagoon than exists today. This program is free. Bring your friends and family. It's important that people understand and appreciate the history of where they live, especially now as change seems to occur so rapidly.



COMPUTER SYSTEM ON

It's your turn! Learn beginning computer ---classes are only \$5.00! Contact Beth, our friendly Reference Librarian, to sign up today. Beth teaches a series of four computer classes most months. Class size is limited to five. Call **(264-5080)** to learn class dates and to register for each class. Classes offered are: Introduction to a Computer (starting with how to turn it on); Internet Basics; Using E-mail; and Word Processing.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Preschool Story Times: **Fridays at 10:30am**

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Please attend the **May 10** meeting of Friends at **12:00 noon** to vote for officers for the 2012-2013 membership year.

Also, please renew your membership in Friends for the 2012-2013 membership year – only \$5.00!

“TINKER, TAILOR, SOLDIER, SPY”

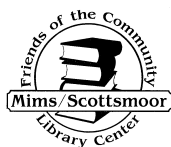
If you watched the Academy Awards last year, you know that one of the outstanding movies honored was the British thriller, “Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy.” Written by admired author John le Carre, the novel illustrates his incomparable gift for bringing to life the murky world of international espionage.

Many readers make it a practice to read the book before watching a movie that was based on the book. Reading the book first is especially wise in this case.

Movies, due to lack of time, necessarily omit enormous amounts of detail, nuance, and description; these aspects, however, are part of what makes books so fascinating.

If you haven't read this superb novel of spying and suspense (or haven't read it lately) you are in for a treat. The setting is London, 1974, where George Smiley---exceptionally brilliant British Intelligence Agent---is now, unhappily, a retired agent. He's probably as unlike Bond, James Bond, as it is possible to be. The reader learns that that at the highest levels of British Intelligence, a double agent---a “mole”---has been implanted deep, perhaps decades ago, by Moscow Centre. It is further evident that this traitor can be one of only five men. George Smiley is called back to duty to dig out the mole and to destroy him.

Readers will journey back in time to the complex, murky, secret world of spies, code names, safety signals (collar worn up means danger), watchers, the Circus, lamplighters, and (is this room bugged?) listeners. For the patient reader who follows the twists and turns to the end, this book provides a satisfying adventure in a shadowy world that few people would dare to experience in real life.



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CALICO JOE

“It’s sports. Bad things happen.” So states Warren Tracey, Major League Baseball Pitcher, about life in the big leagues. In the summer of 1973, Joe Castle was the boy wonder of baseball. Paul Tracey, young son of Warren, idolized Joe Castle. Indeed, baseball fans everywhere idolized Joe Castle....and here we have the elements for John Grisham’s newest novel.

Although fictional, this authentic-sounding novel of baseball examines the careers of two rivals throughout the years. In this story of public competition and private pain, the author weaves statistics, strategy, sportsmanship, aspirations, personalities, shocking behavior and “the code” into an amazing history of baseball as seen through the eyes of young Paul Tracey.

Sure to become a movie, “Calico Joe” is a different kind of book from the eagerly-awaited mysteries written by America’s favorite storyteller, John Grisham. Do not expect a fast-paced adventure, but rather an unfolding character study. Do not look for an exciting, jump-to-your-feet-and-cheer happy ending as occurred in Robert Redford’s outstanding baseball movie, “The Natural.”

Readers will long remember Joe Castle for being the “greatest rookie anyone had ever seen.” Still, it’s sports. Bad things happen.



DOC CLINGENPEEL

The Friends of the Mims/Scottsmoor Library salute Doc Clingenpeel, a long-time member and supporter of our volunteer group. He can be counted on to help wherever needed: setting up tables, unpacking books, sorting books, bringing baked goods, working at the Book and Bake Sale, and taking down books and tables after the sale. Additionally, he has served in several officer positions for the Friends. Volunteers such as Doc, who donate their time and physical effort, make our projects successful. That success benefits the library – and our community. Thanks so much, Doc!

CRACKER CULTURE

On March 15, Karen Smith presented a program on Cracker Culture and early Florida history to a very interested audience at our library. She compared the culture of the south, which had many characteristics of Celtic culture, to the culture of the American north around the time of the 1860s. Many people in the north worked dawn to dusk, and on Sunday went to church. They adored the almighty dollar. Many people in the south had different values; they favored a patriarchal society. Men often left the work to women and slaves. Cattle grazed on the open range, and were sold for profit. Cows and pigs were more valuable than citrus and crops.

Parts of Cracker Culture survive today, and Karen Smith delighted the audience by providing examples.

