

## January 2006

### Scrabble Club

Meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM

### Writers' Group

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 7:00 PM

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Celebration

#### Guest Speaker: Robert Allison

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 7:00 PM

Robert Allison, Chairman of the Department of History at Suffolk University and author of *A Short History of Boston* and editor of *American Eras: The Revolutionary Era 1754-1783* and *American Eras: Development of a Nation 1783-1815* will lecture at the Athenæum on the very date of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin. The continuing influence of Franklin's multi-faceted genius-as writer, journalist, inventor, founder of public institutions (including America's first subscription library), and statesman-will be discussed.

Wine and cheese reception begins at 6:15 PM.

*Members \$5, Non-Members \$8*

### Quakers in Early Salem and New England

#### Guest Speaker: Emerson W. ("Tad") Baker II

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 7:00 PM

Tad Baker is Chairman of the Department of History at Salem State College and a specialist in the material culture of 17th-century New England. Most recently, he served as advisor to the PBS television series "Colonial House." Dr. Baker's subject will be "Quakers in Early Salem and New England." The lecture will focus on the establishment of Quakers in Salem and in Massachusetts - who they were and why they were treated so badly by many Puritans.

This lecture is presented in conjunction with [Historic Salem](#).

## February 2006

### Winter Class Series, Session 1 of 12

#### Jane Austen's World Through History, Literature, and Film

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 7:00 PM

Dr. Maura Henry, formerly of Harvard's History and Literature Department, will examine late-18th and early-19th-century British history through the lens of Austen's novels and their filmic representations, focusing on the ways in which gender and class shaped the lives of the landed elite in cultural institutions as diverse as marriage, education, religion, and economics. The course will also consider how each medium-the historical text, the novel, and the film-serves as a means of interpreting and understanding the past.

The course will occur on Wednesday evenings from February 1 until April 19.

*Members \$240, Non-Members \$260*

*Includes 12 sessions, advance registration required.*

## **Scrabble Club**

Meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM

## **Writers' Group**

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7:00 PM

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

## **Reading by J.D. Scrimgeour**

Saturday, Feb. 18, 2:00 PM

Creative nonfiction writer and poet, J.D. Scrimgeour, will read from his debut collection of poems, *The Last Miles* which was released by Fine Tooth Press in October 2005. An Athenæum member and leader of our Writers' Group, J.D. Scrimgeour coordinates the creative writing program at Salem State College. Book signing and a reception will follow the reading.

## **Writers' Group**

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7:00 PM

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

## **Environmentalism in Massachusetts**

### **The Struggle to Move from Promise to Performance**

Thursday, Feb. 23, 7:30 PM

Despite 35 years of environmental regulation, Massachusetts has yet to come to grips with persistent and worsening environmental problems. Water withdrawal permits are granted without regard for consequences such as the depletion of the Ipswich and other rivers. Sewering and other projects are approved without regard for overdevelopment, sprawl and destruction of critical resources such as Plum Island and Nantucket. The state's list of impaired waters grows longer each year as discharge permit requirements are ignored. And no coherent approach has been taken to meeting energy needs in a manner consistent with environmental protection. It is disingenuous to blame the federal government when our state has the ability to solve such problems. Our speakers will discuss these challenges, what is being done to address them, and what more needs to be done at state and local levels.

**Michael Baram** is Professor of Environmental Law at Boston University Law School and a legal volunteer at the Conservation Law Foundation. **John Pike** is a recently retired partner at Ropes & Gray and a legal volunteer at the Conservation Law Foundation. **Peter Shelley** is Vice President, Conservation Law Foundation, and Director of CLF's Massachusetts Advocacy Center.

Reception begins at 7:00 PM.

*Members \$5, Non-Members \$8*

## March 2006

### **Bartlett's Familiar Shakespeare**

#### **The Pleasures and Pitfalls of Quotation**

SHAKESPEARE LECTURE featuring Marjorie Garber

Tuesday, March 7, 7:00 PM

To honor the 400th anniversary of two of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies--*King Lear* and *Macbeth*--the Athenæum inaugurates the First Annual Shakespeare Lecture.

One of the most notable Shakespeare scholars of our time - Marjorie Garber, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of English and American Literature and Language and of Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard - will discuss Shakespeare's unequalled quotability and the wisdom that lies beneath his many memorable lines.

Dr. Garber is the author of 4 books on Shakespeare (as well as many books on other subjects), including the highly praised *Shakespeare After All* (2004), which earned Garber the Phi Beta Kappa Society's Christian Gauss Award in 2005 and has been described as a "magisterial work of criticism, authoritative and engaging, based on her hugely popular lecture courses at Yale and Harvard over the past thirty years. Richly informed by Shakespearean scholarship of the latter half of the twentieth century, this book offers passionate and revealing readings of all thirty-eight of Shakespeare's plays. . . ; a landmark work that enlarges our understanding of the most celebrated writer of all time."

Reception begins at 6:00 PM.

Books available for sale and signing

Members \$15; Non-Members \$20; Students \$10

### **Writers' Group**

Wednesday, March 8, 7:00 PM

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants.

Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### **Writers' Group**

Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 PM

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants.

Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### **Come on a trail ride with a real cowgirl!**

Children's Program, appropriate for all ages

Sunday, March 26, 2:00 PM

Author and illustrator Jill Stover reads from her latest book, *Trail Ride*. After hearing tales from a childhood in Texas, young cowgirls and cowboys will write and illustrate a new adventure story. Stover is the author of two other children's books, *Popsicle Pony* and *Alamo Across Texas*. Copies will be available for sale and signing.

### **Reading by Timothy Kenslea**

Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 PM, Reception begins at 6:00 PM

Timothy Kenslea will read from his book *The Sedgwicks in Love: Courtship, Engagement, and Marriage in the Early Republic*. *The Sedgwicks in Love* is a narrative exploration of all the things that were changing in the way men and women related to each other in the generation born just after the American Revolution—as they happened to the seven brothers and sisters of one prominent Massachusetts family.

Dr. Kenslea is a history teacher at Norwell High School in Norwell, Massachusetts. He graduated from Yale University, earned master's and doctoral degrees in history at Boston College, and edited high school and college textbooks for many years.

## **April 2006**

### **Scrabble Club**

Meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM

### **The Leadership of George Washington**

#### **ADAMS LECTURE featuring David Hackett Fischer**

Tuesday, April 11

Reception at 6 PM; Lecture at 7 PM at the Peabody Essex Museum

Dinner immediately following the lecture at the Lyceum Bar & Grill

Acclaimed historian David Hackett Fischer was awarded the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for *Washington's Crossing*, a chronicle of a pivotal moment in American history when George Washington crossed the Delaware on Christmas 1776, and not only saved the Revolution, but gave it new meaning. Dr. Fischer will discuss his research on George Washington and share new findings.

Dr. Fischer is University Professor and Warren Professor of History at Brandeis University, and author of several noted books, including *Bound Away: Virginia and the Westward Movement*, *The Great Wave: Price Movements in Modern History*, *Paul Revere's Ride*, and *Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America*. He is co-editor, with James M. McPherson, of the *Pivotal Moments in American History* series published by Oxford University press. He received an AB at Princeton University and PhD at Johns Hopkins University. He lives with his family in Wayland, Massachusetts and Mt. Desert Island in Maine.

Lecture Tickets: Members \$20; Non-members \$25; Students \$10

Dinner (cash bar): Members \$35; Non-members \$40

### **Writers' Group**

Wednesday, Apr. 12, 7:00 PM

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants.

Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday, April 15, 11 AM

## **“Having Breakfasted, Dined, & Supp'd on Politics”**

### **Richard Derby, Junior in the Revolution**

Lecture by Emily A. Murphy

Tuesday, Apr. 25, 7:00 PM

Light refreshments at 6:30 PM

After a successful career as a sea captain, Richard Derby Jr. entered Massachusetts politics at the onset of the American Revolution, and remained in public service throughout the war. Join us to hear the story of this unknown member of the famous Derby Family of 18th Century Salem.

Emily A. Murphy, Park Ranger, Salem Maritime National Historic Site, and PhD Candidate in American Studies at Boston University, will discuss political activities and influence of leading Salem merchant family, the Derbys.

This lecture is co-presented by the Athenæum and Salem Maritime NHS, and supported by funding from an Albright-Wirth Grant from the National Parks Foundation.

### **Writers' Group**

Wednesday, Apr. 26, 7:00 PM

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants.

Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### **Community Poetry Read-in**

Thursday, Apr. 27, 7:00 PM

Celebrate National Poetry Month at the Athenæum! Members and guests are invited to bring along a favorite poem (or two) to read to the group.

Light refreshments at 7:00 p.m. Readings begin at 7:30 p.m.

## **May 2006**

### **Annual Meeting**

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 PM

All proprietors and subscribers welcome.

### **Building & Grounds Work Day**

Saturday, May 20, 9 AM - 3 PM **\*\*Please note date change\*\***

Join us for an hour or all day to spruce up the garden and prepare the Athenæum for summer fun. We'll find projects, indoors and out, for all willing participants. Free lunch and community pride offered for your labors.

Please bring along your own tools if you have them. Recommended items include: work gloves, rakes, pruning shears, small hand saws, chain saws, shovels, edgers, tarps for hauling debris, etc. We welcome contributions of split hosta to plant in the border areas also.

## **Night of Rare Books**

Thursday, May 25, 7:00 PM **\*\*Please note date change\*\***

You are invited to bring a special book from your private collection to share as we learn about proper care and handling of antique and collectible volumes with Deb Wender of the North East Document Conservation Center. Whether early editions of literary texts, historical and scientific works, or children's literature, we look forward to seeing your treasures. Selected works from the Athenæum's own special collections will be on display.

## **June 2006**

**\*\*Scrabble Club meets every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.\*\***

### **Annual Garden Party**

Sunday June 11, 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Members and their guests are invited to join us in the garden for refreshments and a special appearance by the Delta Dixielanders Jazz Band.

### **Poetry Reading by Jean Monahan**

Saturday June 17, 2:00 PM

Join us in the garden where Athenæum member Jean Monahan will read from her latest collection of poems, *Mauled Illusionist*.

## **July 2006**

**\*\*Scrabble Club meets Thursdays July 6, 13, and 27th at 7:00 p.m.\*\***

### **Salem Summer Jam [\[View Poster\]](#)**

Thursday July 20, 7:30 PM

Eli's All-Stars and guest singer Mary Ann Lanier will perform jazz and pop classics on Thursday evening, July 20 on the porch overlooking the garden at The Salem Athenæum, 337 Essex Street, Salem.

Individuals, families and groups are invited to bring picnics and blankets at 6:30 p.m., then enjoy the music beginning at 7:30 p.m. In case of rain the concert will be held indoors.

Dr. Eli Newberger, bandleader, tuba, and keyboard, was the founding pianist and tubaist of the New Black Eagles Jazz Band and has been named best traditional jazz tuba player by a variety of music publications. He has had a

distinguished career as a pediatrician and expert on the causes and prevention of child abuse and family violence.

Mary Ann Lanier, vocalist, performs music ranging from opera to choral masterworks to popular songs to jazz. She has sung with Opera Aperta, Masterworks Chorale, Fine Arts Chorale, Boston Vocal Artists, and the MIT Wind Ensemble. She is a founding member of the American Classics concert series.

Bob Winter, piano, has been pianist for The Boston Pops under John Williams and Keith Lockhart. Professor of piano at Berklee College of Music, he has made many solo, ensemble, and orchestra recordings and has performed with such musicians as Henry Mancini, Mel Torme, Stan Getz, and Luciano Pavarotti.

Ted Casher on tenor sax, clarinet, and vocals, has toured with the Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller, and Artie Shaw orchestras. He is also a prolific jazz composer and arranger.

Dan Fox, on trombone, has also performed on trumpet, electric bass, and drums. Co-founder of the Made in the Shade Music groups, he has toured with the Gene Krupa Orchestra.

Tickets are \$20 per person for members; \$25 per person for non-members, children under 16 are free. Call The Athenæum at 978-744-2540 for reservations.

### **Sickness in Salem: Medical and Social Origins of the Witchcraft Hysteria**

Saturday July 22, 3:00 PM

The Witch House Family Program Series presents a lecture by Sue Kallmes on disease in colonial America. Ms. Kallmes, who lectures regularly on the North Shore about early medicine, is an historic guide at the Peabody Essex Museum.

The lecture will be held at the Athenæum and is free and open to the all. In conjunction with the lecture, Revolutionary War re-enactors will be stationed at the Witch House to provide demonstrations on various aspects of colonial life, including colonial medicine. Guided and self-guided tours of the Witch House will be available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for \$1.00 for Salem residents. Call 978-744-8815 for more details.

## **August 2006**

**\*\*Scrabble Club meets Thursdays Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31th at 7:00 p.m.\*\***

## **September 2006**

### **Reading and Slide Presentation by Emmy Award-winning author**

**Kelly Tyler-Lewis**

Monday, September 11, 7:00 p.m.

The Salem Athenæum will host an author talk by Salem resident Kelly Tyler-Lewis, author of *The Lost Men: The Harrowing Saga of Shackleton's Ross Sea Party*. The program will include a presentation of photographs of her research trips to key locations, including Antarctica. Books will be available for sale and signing.

In 1914, Sir Ernest Shackleton sailed south aboard the *Endurance* into the Weddell Sea intent to make the first-ever

crossing of Antarctica. Aboard the *Aurora*, the 28 men comprising his supply party made for the Ross Sea at the opposite end of the continent where they mobilized to build a lifeline of food and fuel depots to supply Shackleton's epic 1,700-mile crossing. Tragically, the *Aurora* broke free of her moorings in a gale. The 10 men stranded ashore were woefully ill-equipped to complete their mission, yet vowed to carry on in the face of impossible odds.

In her first book, *The Lost Men*, Kelly Tyler-Lewis sheds light on this untold adventure and brings their story to The Athenæum along with a presentation of photographs from her research travels with the National Science Foundation Artists and Writers Program in Antarctica where she visited locales frequented by the Ross Sea party as well as Britain, Australia, and New Zealand.

From 2002-2004 she was a visiting scholar of the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge University and is currently a senior member of Wolfson College, Cambridge. As a writer and producer, Ms. Tyler-Lewis received an Emmy Award in 2003 for Best Historical Documentary for "Shackleton's Voyage of Endurance," a two-hour special broadcast on the PBS series NOVA. The program was also nominated for the Emmy for Best Documentary.

Tickets are \$10, \$5 for Athenæum members, free for students.

### **Jane Austen Discussion Group**

Wednesday, September 13, 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in this discussion group focused on Jane Austen's books. Please be prepared to discuss her first novel, *Northanger Abbey*, at the first meeting. Copies are available at the Athenæum. The organization of the group, i.e., frequency of meetings, will be discussed at this first meeting. If you are interested and can't make it, check back for the next meeting or contact the Athenæum.

### **A Passage to India: An Exploration into the British Empire in India Through History, Literature, and Film 6-Week Course Beginning Monday September 18th, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**Registration Required By August 28**

Dr. Maura Henry, who offered the popular course *Jane Austen's World*, last spring returns to explore the issues of race, gender, sexuality, class, cultural exchange, and mythologies of "the other" as they emerge from Britain's colonization of India. In addition to historical accounts of the British in India, various works of literature, such as the novels of E. M. Forster, and films that depict this vexed relationship will be studied.

Dr. Henry has been a lecturer in Harvard's History and Literature Department and in the Harvard Extension School and is now Assistant Professor of History at Holyoke Community College, and a faculty member with the Teachers as Scholars program in Boston.

The course will be held Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. through October 30. Class does not meet on October 9, in observance of Columbus Day.

Tuition is \$175 / \$145 for Athenæum members.

### **Writers' Group**

Tuesday, September 19, 7:00 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

## **Loyal Princes**

### **The Loyalist Side of the Derby Family**

Lecture by Emily A. Murphy

Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 p.m.

Last spring, Emily A. Murphy delighted Athenæum members with her lecture on Richard Derby, Junior and his role in the American Revolution.

This lecture continues the Derby family saga by examining the activities of Richard Junior's sister, Martha, who fled with her husband, John Prince, to Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1774. Although they were Loyalists, they kept close ties to their family members in Salem as well as to the Derby family shipping empire.

Ms. Murphy is a Park Ranger at Salem Maritime National Historic Site and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in American Studies at Boston University. Her dissertation, with a working title of "American Medici: The Derby Family and Their Rise to Power in the British Atlantic World," examines the sea-faring and mercantile enterprises of the Derbys as well as their cultural influence and participation in public life.

She writes and lectures frequently on Early American history and among her publications for the National Parks Service are a walking tour, Nathaniel Hawthorne's Salem, and a booklet, Merchants, Clerks, Citizens, and Soldiers: a History of the Second Corps of Cadets. She received a B.A. from St. John's College and an M.A. in American Studies from Pennsylvania State University. In 1996 she was awarded the honor of writing a commemorative history for her alma mater titled A Complete and Generous Education: 300 Years of Liberal Arts, St. John's College, Annapolis.

Tickets are \$10, \$5 for Athenæum members, free for students.

## **Jane Austen Discussion Group**

Wednesday, September 27, 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in this discussion group focused on Jane Austen's books. Please be prepared to discuss Sense and Sensibility at this meeting. Copies are available at the Athenæum. The group meets every two weeks and discusses Austen's work in the order that they were written.

## **Annual Book Sale**

Saturday, September 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Everyone welcome to hunt for reading treasure in the Garden of the Athenæum! Donations accepted during normal library hours through September 23rd.

## **October 2006**

### **Writers' Group**

Tuesday, October 3, 7:00 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

**Samuel Beckett Centennial  
with Robert Scanlan**

Friday, October 6, 7 p.m.

Samuel Beckett, author of *Waiting for Godot*, *Endgame*, *Happy Days*, and many other works, was the most revolutionary playwright of the 20th century. On this 100th anniversary of Beckett's birth, the Athenæum is pleased to welcome Robert Scanlan, Visiting Lecturer on dramaturgy and theater history in the English Department at Harvard University, who will discuss Beckett's contributions to theatre and the challenge of directing his work.

Dr. Scanlan was for many years the Literary Director of the American Repertory Theatre, where he headed the Dramaturgy Program for the Institute for Advanced Theatre Training. From 1978 to 1989, Dr. Scanlan was Director of the Drama Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He directs frequently in America and abroad, winning in 1995 the Boston Theatre Award for Outstanding Director. Directing credits include *Samson Agonistes*, with Claire Bloom and John Neville at the 92nd Street Y in New York; his own stage adaptation of *The Inferno* of Dante in Robert Pinsky's translation; *An Evening of Beckett* and *Beckett Trio* in the ART Fall Festival.

As a past president of Poets' Theatre and a member of its board of directors, he directed the world premiere presentation of *Beckett's Stirrings Still* (with David Warrilow).

Tickets are \$10, \$5 for Athenæum members, free for students.

**Jane Austen Discussion Group**

Wednesday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in this discussion group focused on Jane Austen's books. Please be prepared to discuss *Pride and Prejudice* at this meeting. Copies are available at the Athenæum. The group meets every two weeks and discusses Austen's work in the order that they were written.

**Sing-Along featuring Jen Strom**

Saturday, October 14, 3:00 p.m.

Muscian and Salem resident Jen Strom will lead a sing-along featuring classic children's favorites, rhythm games and finger plays. Strom will bring her guitar, fiddle and a variety of other instruments.

This special afternoon is for families and children of all ages, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

Classically trained on violin, Strom also plays in traditional fiddle styles including Irish, Canadian and Cape Breton. She participates in the Salem Country Dances and has performed at the Irish Connections Festival and Salem Maritime Festival, as well as at the New Year's Rockport Eve celebrations.

While at The Athenæum, families will also have an opportunity to see the current exhibit, "'Once Upon a Time:' ABC's to Cinderella," now in its final weeks.

**Writers' Group**

Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants.

### **Free introductory session for Chinese Language Course**

Saturday, October 21, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

An introductory session is scheduled, free to all interested persons, from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 21st, at the Athenæum. A native speaker of Mandarin, Mr. Benjamin Yong Wang, will serve as instructor. He is the owner of Salem Oriental Gallery at 178 Essex Street.

There will be 10 sessions on subsequent Saturdays at the same time, beginning October 28th. Subsequent semesters may be scheduled to further advance the level of the students.

10 sessions are \$140 for members and \$165 for non-members.

### **Spanish Language Discussion Group**

Monday, October 23, 7:00 p.m.

First meeting of casual Spanish language group for those wishing to keep their conversational skills in practice. Open to all members.

### **Jane Austen Discussion Group**

Wednesday, October 25, 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in this discussion group focused on Jane Austen's books. Please be prepared to discuss *Mansfield Park* at this meeting. Copies are available at the Athenæum. The group meets every two weeks and discusses Austen's work in the order that they were written.

### **Mozart Sesquicentennial Celebration**

#### **featuring The Parker String Quartet**

Friday, October 27, 7:00 p.m.

Please join us at the Athenæum for an evening of champagne, canapes and Mozart in the company of the renowned Parker String Quartet.

Program:

Mozart: String Quartet in G Major, K. 387

Haydn: String Quartet in G Minor, Op. 74, No. 3

Mozart: String Quartet in D Major, K. 575

The Quartet has been hailed by The Washington Post as "a quartet that propels the music irresistibly but with extraordinary grace and flexibility." They have quickly established themselves as a dynamic young chamber ensemble since their founding in May of 2002. In March 2005, The Quartet was chosen as a winner of the Concert Artists Guild International Competition in New York. Only three months later, the group was awarded First Prize, a recording prize, and the Mozart Prize at the 2005 Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition in France, along with over twenty performance prize engagements through Europe.

Featured engagements during the 2005-6 season include The Quartet's critically acclaimed New York debut at Carnegie Hall, about which The New York Times raved that the performance "set the group apart as something extraordinary."

The Parker String Quartet was recently selected for the prestigious Professional String Quartet Training Program at

the New England Conservatory of Music, where the group was founded and also where it was selected in 2002 and 2003 as the NEC's Honors Ensemble, resulting in annual recitals in Jordan Hall, as well as numerous outreach concerts in the Boston area. Currently, the Quartet is coached by Paul Katz at NEC, and other coaches have included Martha Strongin Katz, Donald Weilerstein, Kim Kashkashian, Roger Tapping, Paul Katz, and Lucy Stoltzman. All of the quartet's members are presently pursuing graduate degrees in performance and chamber music at the New England Conservatory.

The Parker String Quartet is Daniel Chong (violin), Karen Kim (violin), Jessica Bodner (viola), and Kee-Hyun Kim (cello). For more information, see their website <http://www.parkerquartet.com/>.

Tickets: Members \$50 --- Non-members \$60

## November 2006

### **Chinese Language Course**

Saturday, November 4, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Benjamin Yong Wang, a native speaker of Mandarin, leads a 10-session course beginning November 4th.

The class will meet Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Subsequent semesters may be scheduled to further advance the level of the students.

Cost is \$140 for members and \$165 for non-members.

### **Spanish Language Discussion Group**

Monday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.

Spanish language group for those wishing to keep their conversational skills in practice. Open to all members. Please contact Jean Marie for details.

### **Writers' Group**

Tuesday, November 7, 7:00 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### **Jane Austen Discussion Group**

Wednesday, November 8, 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in this discussion group focused on Jane Austen's books. Please be prepared to discuss *Emma* at this meeting. Copies are available at the Athenæum. The group meets every two weeks and discusses Austen's work in the order that they were written.

### **Reading by Matthew Pearl**

Thursday, November 9, 7:00 p.m.

Join us for a reading by acclaimed writer, Matthew Pearl. His debut novel, *The Dante Club*, has been an international bestseller translated into more than 30 languages. His highly anticipated second novel, *The Poe Shadow* is another New York Times and international bestseller. Copies of both books will be available for sale and signing.

Matthew Pearl graduated from Harvard University summa cum laude in English and American Literature in 1997 and Yale Law School in 2000. He has taught literature and creative writing at Harvard University and Emerson College. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He is now at work on his third novel.

Tickets are \$10, \$5 for Athenæum members, free for students.

### **Writers' Group**

Tuesday, November 21, 7:00 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### **Reading by Joseph Taylor**

Saturday, November 18, 2:00 p.m.

Local writer and Athenæum member Joseph Taylor will read from his collection of essays, including several that have won prizes in the writing competition at the Marblehead Festival of the Arts. His subjects cover a wide variety of themes and voices in pop culture and in the serious realities of living. Taylor has also published poetry, and a play about the Lincoln-Douglas debates that premiered at the Peabody Essex Museum, as well as Op-ed and magazine literary pieces.

Before coming to Salem, Taylor had a career in mental health and teaching at the University of Pennsylvania.

Tickets are \$5 and free for Athenæum members and students.

### **Nathaniel Hawthorne as Romantic Traveler**

From Salem to the Ends of the World

Lecture by Lawrence Buell

Tuesday, November 28, 7 p.m.

Lawrence Buell, the Powell M. Cabot Professor of American Literature at Harvard, will talk about one of the many paradoxes in Hawthorne's life and career. Despite his justifiable self-definition as a New England writer, and the regional cast of most of his fiction, Hawthorne was also a compulsive vicarious traveler who in his own offbeat writerly way can be seen as continuing the tradition of his patrilineal Salemite ancestors, who "followed the sea" (as

he puts it in "The Custom House"). Pondering this paradox may also help us understand some of the other mysteries about Hawthorne, several of which Dr. Buell will discuss.

Hawthorne's reflections on Transcendentalism are included in a new book, *The American Transcendentalists: Essential Writings*, edited by Lawrence Buell, who is considered by his peers to be an eminent scholar and "probably the most distinguished living authority on Emerson's literary circle, the American Transcendentalists" according to Daniel W. Howe, Rhodes Professor of American History emeritus, Oxford University.

Dr. Buell's previous book, *Emerson*, examines Hawthorne's friend Ralph Waldo Emerson, America's first public intellectual and the first to articulate to a general audience the implications of what it meant culturally, politically, and philosophically to be American and to consider in practical terms what the United States' role in the world should be. Emerson won both the Robert Penn Warren-Cleanth Brooks Award for Outstanding Literary Criticism and the Christian Gauss Award of Phi Beta Kappa.

Tickets are \$10, \$5 for Athenæum members, and free for students.

## **December 2006**

### **Writers' Group**

Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.

### **Open House and Reception for the New Exhibit**

Sunday, December 10, 2 to 4 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to join us for this family friendly event to celebrate the opening of the new exhibit: "What They Were Reading: Popular Books of the Social Library, 1760-1810." We've taken down and opened the books in the Wendt Room and have they got stories to tell!

Events will include a children's activity and a story reading.

### **Writers' Group**

Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 p.m.

Members and guests are welcome to share their own work or listen and discuss the writing of other participants. Group led by J.D. Scrimgeour.