

Library News & Events

August 2008

Rediscover Your Library as the First Step in Life-long Learning



Are you an aspiring author? Get valuable tips from professional writers in a series of free workshops starting in August @ Your Library!

For information on current and upcoming programs at the Burbank Public Library, go online to www.BurbankLibrary.com!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Organizations Meetings.....	2
Subscribe to E-News.....	2
Journeys in Crime Fiction.....	2
Storytime Registration Begins...	2
Big Read.....	3
Aunt Agatha's Picks.....	3
Book Club Corner	3
Library Events	4

Organizations Meeting Times

Monday, Aug. 4 6:30 PM
Burbank Sister City Committee meets at the Central Library.

Wednesday, Aug. 13 6 PM
Board of Library Trustees meets monthly at the Central Library; the public is invited to attend.

The Friends of the Burbank Public Library are on hiatus until their September 24th.

Become a Subscriber to Burbank Library E-News!

If you would like to receive program information, news of special events, and library newsletters by e-mail, subscribe at burbankpubliclibrary@ci.burbank.ca.us.

Your information will ONLY be used to inform you about library events.

Library News & Events is

published monthly by the Burbank Public Library.
Editor: Louise Paziak

www.BurbankLibrary.com

Burbank Central Library
110 N. Glenoaks Blvd. 91502
818.238.5590 (Audio Visual)
238.5610 (Children's)
238.5600 (Circulation)
238.5577 (Literacy)
238.5580 (Reference)
238.5589 (Young Adult)

Buena Vista Branch Library
300 N. Buena Vista St. 91505
818.238.5620 (Circulation)
238.5625 (Reference)
238.5630 (Children's)

Northwest Branch Library
3323 W. Victory Blvd. 91505
818.238.5640

All events are free to the public. Programs are subject to change without prior notice. Please call the library to confirm dates of events.

Two Authors' Journeys in Crime Fiction



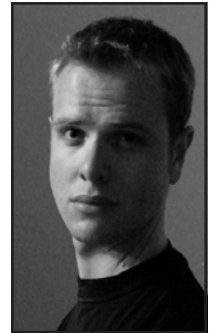
If you like edgy thrillers set in exotic locations, be sure to catch this double-hitter *Coffee & Conversation* on Wednesday, August 20, at the Buena Vista Branch Library. Authors Evan Kilgore and Eric Stone will talk about their writing and offer a presentation of photographs from the exotic locales featured in their books.

From the jungles of Africa and Asia, into the darkest nooks and crannies of their characters' minds, these two authors take readers travelling with them.

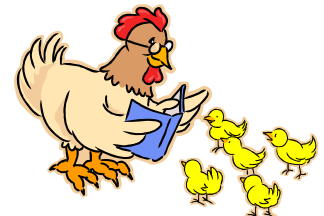
Evan Kilgore's *The Children of Black Valley*, is an action-packed thriller and the second novel by this emerging

new talent. Sam Mackie is a mid-level pharmaceutical executive when a mysterious stranger tries to abduct his young son, Daniel. Sam travels halfway around the world to discover what links an abandoned nuclear silo in the jungles of Africa, his son Daniel, and his own dark past.

Grave Imports by Eric Stone is a hotpot of high adventure in exotic locales, fascinating characters, international commerce, terrible crime and one mixed-up, reluctant hero trying to shed light into some of the darkest corners of Asia. Stone was a journalist based in Asia for 11 years, covering topics ranging from economics to the arts, politics to sex, and pretty much everything in between. His Ray Sharp series of detective thrillers is based on true stories that he covered, or was familiar with from his work in Asia. Stone's latest novel, *Flight of the Hornbill*, will be released in October.



Storytime Registration Set for September 8th



Start your child on the road to a love of reading and life-long learning. Preschool Storytime and Toddler Tales returns the week of September 23. You can register your child for these interactive programs beginning **September 8th** at all three locations of the Burbank Public Library.

Preschool Storytime is for children age 3 years and up. It's held on Tuesdays, 10 or 11 AM, at the Buena Vista Branch Library; 10 AM Wednesdays at the Northwest Branch Library; and 10 AM Thursdays at the Central Library.

Toddler Tales is a program for children age 2 and under. Space is limited for this program and priority may be given to Burbank residents. The Buena Vista Branch Library holds Toddler Tales at 10 or 11 AM on Wednesdays or Fridays. The Central Library holds Toddler Tales on Fridays at 10 or 11 AM.

Burbank to Participate in The Big Read

The Burbank Public Library will be partnering with The Huntington Library in San Marino to host a Big Read celebration of Jack London's *The Call of the Wild* this October. A grant from the National Endowment for the Arts was awarded to The Huntington which will help fund a series of events including lectures, book discussions, dramatic readings, films, and musical performances.

Ten cities, including Burbank, will serve as venues for the Big Read events. The Burbank Public Library will host acclaimed actor Michael Oakes and his powerful portrayal of Jack London on September 29.

[continued on page 3]



Aunt Agatha's Poisoned Picks

Postwar Los Angeles: corrupt cops, dueling gangsters, hopeful starlets, the golden era of movie animation, and the glamour of Hollywood.

Denise Hamilton, author of the bestselling Eve Diamond series and editor of the award-winning anthology, *Los Angeles Noir*, has crafted a suspenseful stand-alone thriller, *The Last Embrace*. It's an entertaining and notable entry in noir fiction, one that, frankly, Aunt Agatha had a very hard time putting down.

Los Angeles in 1949 was time of transition. Women who had discovered the joys of independence working jobs left vacant when the men went off to war, were suddenly jobless. After building airplanes for the war effort, these women were now being told to go home, get married, have babies, and leave the real work for the men.

It was two years after the horrendous "Black Dahlia" murder and that crime was never solved. Young women had every reason to fear for their lives. Yet girls would pour into this fabled town, look at the Hollywood sign with stars in their eyes, and a hope in their hearts that they, too, would make it in the movies.

It was into this scenario that Lily Kessler steps as she leaves the train at Union Station one October day in 1949. After spending the war years as a "file clerk," but actually spying for the OSS, Lily comes to Hollywood on a personal mission. The mother of her late fiancé asks Lily to go out to Hollywood and look into her daughter's disappearance. Kitty Hayden was one of the legions of young starlets in a town that chewed up aspiring actresses for supper. Kitty left her boardinghouse one night and was never seen again.

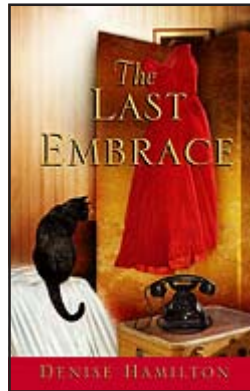
When Kitty's body is found in a ravine beneath the Hollywood sign, Lily is determined to put her well-honed investigative skills to finding the killer. She moves into the Wilcox Boardinghouse for Young Ladies and proceeds to question Kitty's roommates. No doubt someone knows more than she's admitting.

The young women in the boardinghouse are all travellers on the road to stardom. While there is an air of camaraderie amongst the group, there is also an underlying fierce competitiveness. One of the girls who lost her fiancé during the war remarks, "Just think. I could have had three squalling brats and a house in Burbank by now."

Babyboomers who grew up in the Los Angeles area may find that *The Last Embrace* will open doors in their memories. Even fifty years ago, Hollywood was basically a small town. Marlon Brando and his wife could be seen shopping at the Hollywood Ranch Market. Montgomery Clift was often seen running his lines with fans at a local coffee shop. Frank Sinatra enjoyed rehearsing before an audience so he would invite all the Capitol Records' secretaries and their friends to sit in.

Clifton's Cafeteria in downtown Los Angeles was the meeting place for the Science Fiction Club where a young Ray Bradbury, Forrest J. Ackerman, Robert A. Heinlein, and others discussed such issues as space travel and life on Mars. Stop-motion animation wizard Ray Harryhausen often sat in on those discussions and no doubt gained inspiration for his amazing special effects.

At a recent booksigning event with author Denise Hamilton, she was asked about the significance of the cat on the cover of *The Last Embrace*. She laughed



Book Club Corner



BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB

meets August 19 at noon
Central Library

I Heard the Owl Call My Name

by Margaret Craven
will be discussed

*New members welcome!

Check out the **Murder & Tea**
Mystery Book Group meeting at
the Burbank Central Library
on **August 14, at 7 PM**

Dating Can be Deadly

by Wendy Roberts
will be discussed

New members welcome!
check out their website @

<http://mystery.meetup.com/82/>

and said that her publishers assured her that books with cats on the covers sold better. Hamilton was fine with the cover art as long as people wouldn't assume the book was chick lit.

Well, cats or not, Hamilton needn't worry about *The Last Embrace* selling. Watch for this on the new Mysteries shelf at your library.

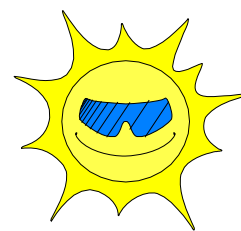
The Big Read

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Other events at Burbank include Ericka Koss, Literature Specialist for the NEA, who will present a talk on Jack London and his contemporaries; a documentary about Alaska and the Klondike Gold Rush; and Sue Hodson, curator of literary manuscripts for The Huntington, will present an illustrated lecture on "Jack London, Photographer."

Watch for more information on The Big Read in coming weeks.

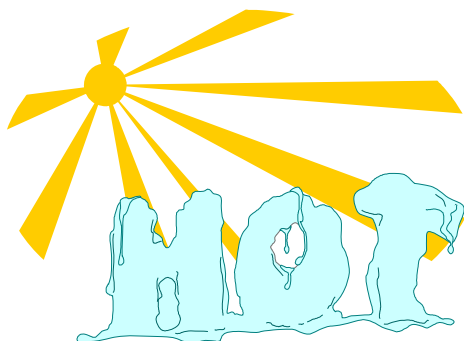
AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR



- Saturday, August 2** **2:00 PM** **Coffee & Conversation with Sisters in Crime**
Mystery readers wanted for "A Slight Case of Murder!" Join us for another fascinating look at the mystery genre with local authors from Sisters in Crime. Featured panel this month includes Morgan St. James, Joan Del Monte, Sheila Lowe and moderator Gay Toltl Kinman. *Buena Vista Branch Library*
- Sunday, August 3** **5:30 PM** **Shakespeare at Play Presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream"**
Bring a picnic, Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy Shakespeare on the lawn. Shakespeare at Play's presentation is fun for the whole family. The "Green Show" starts at 4 PM and the main show begins at 5:30 PM.
Buena Vista Branch Library
- Monday, August 4** **7:00 PM** **Free Writing Workshop: Don't Sabotage Your Submission**
Save your manuscript from turning up D.O.A.! Chris Roerden, an accomplished editor, writer, and teacher with 44 years experience, will discuss ways writers can improve their odds of getting published. *Buena Vista Branch Library*
- Friday, August 8** **2:00 PM** **Friday Matinee--The Wild West**
John Ford directs the 1946 western *My Darling Clementine*, a retelling of the shoot-out at the OK Corral. The film stars Henry Fonda, Victor Mature, Walter Brennan, and Linda Darnell. Run-time is 97 minutes. *Central Library*
- Sunday, August 10** **5:30 PM** **Shakespeare at Play Presents "Two Gentlemen of Verona"**
Bring a picnic, Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy Shakespeare on the lawn. Shakespeare at Play's presentation is fun for the whole family. The "Green Show" starts at 4 PM and the main show begins at 5:30 PM.
Buena Vista Branch Library
- Tuesday, August 12** **7:00 PM** **Sounds of Summer**
Get ready for toe-tappin' and finger-snappin' fun. THE ALLEY CATS, America's premiere Doo-Wop group will perform. Bring a picnic. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. *Northwest Branch Library*
- Wednesday, August 20** **7:00 PM** **Coffee & Conversation Evan Kilgore and Eric Stone**
Do you enjoy edgy thrillers set in exotic locales? Join authors Evan Kilgore and Eric Stone, two authors' journey into crime fiction. They will present a slide presentation of the exotic locales where their books are set. *Buena Vista Branch Library*
- Saturday, August 23** **2:00 PM** **Free Writing Workshop: Dream of Becoming the Next J.K. Rowling?**
If you're interested in writing for children and young adults, join Dr. Gay Toltl Kinman for a fun and informative workshop. Authors with manuscripts should bring the first page of their work for discussion. *Buena Vista Branch Library*

Summer Movie Matinees for Kids at the Buena Vista Branch Library: Space is limited to the first 30 attendees

- Tuesday, August 5, 3:30 PM -- *A Bug's Life* (96 minutes; rated G)
- Thursday, August 7, 3:30 PM -- *Bugs! A Rainforest Adventure* (40 minutes)
- Tuesday, August 12, 3:30 PM -- *Antz* (83 minutes; rated PG)
- Thursday, August 14, 3:30 PM -- *The Ant Bully* (88 minutes; rated PG)
- Tuesday, August 19, 3:30 PM -- *Charlotte's Web* (97 minutes; rated G)
- Thursday, August 21, 3:30 PM -- *James and the Giant Peach* (79 minutes; rated PG)



All events are free to the public and are funded in whole or in part by the Friends of the Burbank Public Library. Programs are subject to change without prior notice. Please call the library to confirm dates and times of events or check online @ www.BurbankLibrary.com