Mail-A-Book Connection

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You are Invited to a Party
Happy New Year - 2016
A teleconference event

Ring in the New Year with Friends
Please join us on December 31st from 7-9 pm
And again on New Years Day from 11am-1pm

Hosted by Queens Library Older Adult/Homebound Services
First time callers should contact 718-464-0084 for access numbers
Lifelong Learning

Group Discussions & Classes From Your Home Phone

History - Art - Literature - Popular Culture - Current Events

After Hours

Topical Discussions
Led by Melba John-Riley

Jan 14/Feb 11 @ 8 pm

After Hours

Short Stories
Led by Bonnie Sue Pokorny

Jan 28/Feb 25 @ 8 pm

At Home With Words

Express Yourself In Your Own Style
Chit Chat with Friends

Led by Judy Kamilbor
January 22 @ 10 am

Art History

Art Through The Ages
Discussions about Art and Artists

Led by Marion Mango
January 8 @ 10 am
February 5 @ 10 am

“The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you.”

Please call 718-464-0084 to register for teleconference programs and to get access numbers.
Books and Beyond
Books-Stories-Art-Literature-Biography-Movies

A Teleconference Discussion Group led by Shyan Bhairo

Thursday January 7 @ 11 am
Marilyn Monroe: Her Life and Works

Thursday January 21 @ 11am
Book Discussion

We’re reading
The Longest Ride by Nicholas Sparks

For access numbers
Call Mail a Book 718-464-0084

Thursday February 4 @ 11 am
The Darkness Behind Walt Disney

Thursday February 18 @ 11am
Book Discussion

We’re reading
A Spool of Blue Thread

For access numbers
Call Mail a Book 718-464-0084
The Hour I First Believed by Wally Lamb.
Reviewed by Alice Morley

This is an outstanding book. It comes in large print. The book is about Maurine and Caelum Quirt. Maurine is a school nurse, working at Columbine High School in Littleton Colorado on April 1999. She was caught in the massacre on that day and hid in a cabinet in the library while the bullets were flying. She was able to escape and she had to deal with the aftermath. How she and Caleum came through living with tragedy and how it affected their lives is a fascinating story. I hope you enjoy this book as much as I did.

We Never Asked for Wings by Vanessa Diffenbaugh
Reviewed by Bonnie Sue Pokorny

Letty has two children. Her eldest is fifteen years old and her youngest is six. Letty never married and had her first child at 18yrs old. She works three different jobs in order to support herself, her children and her parents. Her mother has been raising the children while Letty was busy working. Her parents decide to return to Mexico and Letty, for the first time, has to learn how to become a parent. There are many trials and issues involved and as she tries her best to parent, she has many obstacles.

The Murderer's Daughter by Jonathan Kellerman
Reviewed by Bonnie Sue Pokorny

This is a stand alone book involving a clinical psychologist, Grace. She was a witness to seeing parents die in a murder/suicide. She was placed in multiple foster homes and she is a genius. Now an adult, she has a thriving practice and she meets with one client from Texas who has an impact on her life and her memories. If I write too much about this story it will affect the suspense so I won't. However, this was an interesting, thoughtful and absorbing read.
Girl Waits With Gun by Amy Stewart
Reviewed by Marion Mango

Based upon real events and real people, this historical (and sometimes hysterical) novel will grab and hold your interest from start to finish.

Snatched from the headlines of a hundred years ago, it tells the true story of the courageous Kopp sisters- Norma, Constance, and Fleurette- who originally resided in Patterson, New Jersey, but were forced by a family secret onto a farm in a remote area in Wyckoff, New Jersey.

Bereft of parents and urged by their brother to move in with, or at least nearby, him these independent, strong-willed, resourceful, and eccentric --- for their day- women remained on their farm and lived a relatively sedate life in gentile poverty until a silent movie company came to Patterson on the same day they happened to be there. What ensued would change their lives forever.

The action hopscotches from cops to crooks to countryside to New York City and affords each character the chance to not only grow into who they were meant to be, but also bring to justice malevolent malefactors who had surreptitiously slipped through the system.

Thank you, Amy Stewart for rescuing Constance Kopp from historical obscurity and bringing her into our lives. Ms. Stewart lives in Eureka, California where she and her husband own and run a bookstore on whose shelves you no doubt will find her other award-winning books among which are “The Drunken Botanist” and “Wicked Plants”.

Polish your pistols and enjoy the read!

Life in Motion by Misty Copeland
Reviewed by Bonnie Sue Pokorny

Misty Copeland wrote this autobiography as a black ballerina for the American Ballet Theatre. She made news as their black soloist and after this book was published, as a principal. Her story is very interesting. How she discovered ballet at the age of thirteen, living in poverty and having multiple step fathers as she grew up, her custody fight and of course, her professional life in the ballet.

I would recommend this book.
The Rosie Effect by Graeme Simsion
Reviewed by Bonnie Sue Pokorny

I recently wrote a review on "The Rosie Project" by this author and now the "Rosie Effect" is the sequel. Both books are comical, light and charming. Don & Rosie are now married and living in New York City. He is a professor at Columbia and Rosie is studying for her PHD and MD. Rosie is now pregnant which has thrown everyone for a loop. This is fun and crazy in a nice way and I would recommend it.
Poetry

In Flew Enza
by Marion Mango

One day it was warm
So I opened the windah
Lo and behold, in flew Enza!
She brought with her
Much aches and pain,
Not to mention
A foggy brain.

A dose of myecins,
A dash of prayer,
And pretty soon
She was no longer there.

One day it was cold
So I closed the windah—
That was the endah Influenza

“Bandit” by Marion Mango

You fluffy ball
Of black and white fur—
Mask-like markings—
Ring around the collar
We don’t want ever to remove.

Waddling along on chubby paws...
You stole our hearts
The minute we saw you—
That’s why we call you “Bandit”.

The Poet In You

Led by Denise Downing

Discover and celebrate the poet in you

Wednesdays
January 20 and February 17 @ 11am
Pacified
Submitted by Karen Marie Turnbull
Inspired by Edna St. Vincent Millay

I shall go back again to the bleak shore
And watch the rain pour down on dark grained sand
Making mad waves crash into soft beach land
Against the torrent of the ocean’s roar
At each uprising of the great sea’s floor
Huge sorrows are unleashed in white foamed bands
Stretching out, destroying what they demand.

And yet, I shall return on some fair day
To find a gently, rippled fair blue water
Restoring peace, uplifting depths
That may have fallen by storms
To wild disorder
Like newfound joy against the heart of grief,
Strengthening, encouraging and sending relief

I Shall Go Back Again To The Bleak Shore

Sonnet by Edna St. Vincent Millay

I shall go back again to the bleak shore
And build a little shanty on the sand
In such a way that the extremest band
Of brittle seaweed will escape my door
But by a yard or two, and nevermore
Shall I return to take you by the hand;
I shall be gone to what I understand
And happier than I ever was before.

The love that stood a moment in your eyes,
The words that lay a moment on your tongue,
Are one with all that in a moment dies,
A little under-said and over-sung;
But I shall find the sullen rocks and skies
Unchanged from what they were when I was young.
January Fun Facts
By Kathy Cohen

January, named after the Roman god Janus, begins with New Year’s Day and we hope that you will join Mail a Book for a lively chat with Madlyn Schneider and other customers to start the year off right.

In 153 BC the Roman Senate declared January 1st to be the beginning of the new year, but in the Middle Ages the Christian church opposed celebrating a “pagan” New Year. It wasn’t until the 16th century that European countries began to make January 1st the official start of the new year.

This is National Stay Healthy Month so follow your doctor’s dietary recommendations and also cut down on fat, salt and sugar as much as possible.

On January 1, 1863 Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in the Confederacy. The 2013 Steven Spielberg movie, “Lincoln” depicts the historical backdrop for this momentous decision. Daniel Day Lewis won an Academy Award for his portrayal of President Lincoln and the movie is full of fine performances and rich in period costumes and sets.

Some of the many famous people born in this month include:
Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Cary Grant, Elvis Presley, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Jackie Robinson, Oprah Winfrey and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

During the long, dark and cold days of this month you can look forward to “Burns Night” on the 25th. This night is celebrated mostly in Scotland and by people of Scots descent everywhere to celebrate poet Robert Burns. If you like his poetry you can host your own Burns Dinner with friends. An authentic dinner features a menu with haggis featured, accompanied by mashed potatoes (tatties) and mashed turnips (neeps).
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◊ If you need more time, we are happy to renew your items. Call Mail a Book to renew 718-464-0084
◊ We suggest that you take out at least two items at a time. If requested, we can send them to you in two separate bags. That way you will always have something to read, while we are working on your next order.
◊ You are allowed to check out up to 50 items on your account, but only 10 DVD’s at a time please.
◊ Library materials are usually chosen for you by our Mail a Book Librarian, based on preferences set up during registration (favorite authors, titles, subjects, Large Print, Regular Print, Audio, Movies). Let us know if your preferences have changed.
◊ “Special Request” customers choose their own library materials and are only sent items they specifically request.
◊ In order to remain an active member of Mail a Book, it is recommended that “Special Request” customers check out at least 2 items every 3 months.
◊ Return postage/postcard and plastic strip are included inside the re-usable mail bag. Check inside the book jacket.
◊ When reclosing the mail bag with the plastic strip, please leave a little room for us to clip open the bag. Don’t pull the strip too tight. One black strip is all that’s needed to secure the mail bag.
◊ Don’t know what to read next, ask our Mail a Book librarian for suggestions.
◊ Do you have a reference question, don’t hesitate to call.
◊ It’s easy to request specific library materials. Here is how:
  ◊ Call us at 718-464-0084
  ◊ Email us at mailabook@queenslibrary.org
  ◊ Send us a note with returned material
  ◊ Through the mail (94-11 217 Street, Queens Village, NY 11423)

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Every $25 donation will buy one new book for a homebound Queens Library Mail a Book member
Your name, or the name of the person you choose to honor or memorialize will be printed on a commemorative Buy-A-Book bookplate and placed in a new book. Gifts of $500 or more will represent shelves or stacks of books which will be publically acknowledged, should you choose.
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the name of a popular location for celebrating New Years Eve.
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<td>What Are You Reading 11am</td>
<td>Books &amp; Beyond Marilyn Monroe 11 am</td>
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<td>Memoir Writing 11am</td>
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<td>Martin Luther King Jr Day</td>
<td>Meditation with Helene 2pm</td>
<td>The Poet in You With Denise 11am</td>
<td>Books &amp; Beyond The Longest Ride by N. Sparks 11 am</td>
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<td>Robert Burns Day 11am</td>
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January 2016

Queens Library Mail a Book Calendar - Virtual Programs for Older Adults

- New Years Teleconference 11am
- Skype Crosswords 1:30pm
- After Hours Short Stories Discussion 8 pm
- STARS & Chat 10am
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<td>Memoir Writing 11am</td>
<td>Sing A Long with Rich 2pm</td>
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<td>President’s Day</td>
<td>The Roosevelts 2pm</td>
<td>The Poet in You With Denise 11am</td>
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<td>Queens Museum Jason Yoon 10am</td>
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