



EX LIBRIS

The Newsletter of the American Library in Paris
Summer 2011

For libraries, an e-book future?

Scott Turow at the 2011 Library gala dinner

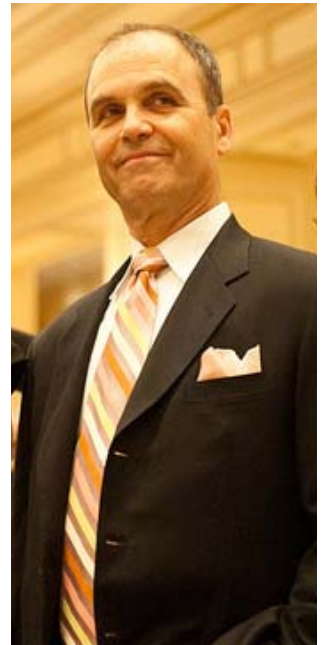
Nearly two hundred friends and supporters of the American Library in Paris gathered for the Library's annual gala dinner May 24. They heard author Scott Turow, the guest of honor, deliver a sobering assessment of the future of books and publishing – and libraries -- in the digital age.

"Literature will surely survive," Turow said. "But we really are looking at an e-book future, perhaps more than people realize, especially people in this room, who grew up holding paper books in their hands and still cherish the experience."

Turow, president of the Authors Guild

and bestselling author of "Presumed Innocent" and "Innocent," described a publishing and bookselling industry in rapid transition, susceptible to monopoly and vulnerable to piracy. "I expect Amazon to use its leverage as far and away the largest seller of e-books," Turow said, "to drive paper publishers out of business." (*Excerpts from Turow's remarks appear on page 4.*)

U.S. Ambassador to France Charles Rivkin and his wife, Susan Tolson, were special guests at the gala dinner, the Library's principal fundraising event of the year, at the Four Seasons Hotel George V. So were more



Continued on page 3

The summer renovation: Openings and closings

As members have learned from the March *Ex Libris* and recent updates in *e-Libris*, the Library is undertaking selected renovations during the summer months. Indeed, the relocation and refurbishment of the children's and teen center has already happened.

For the remaining work, which will create a new conference room, an expanded reading room, and new reference, cataloging, and circulation areas, the Library must close for six weeks during the summer. Our operating hours are below; please visit our website to find answers to questions about borrowing due dates and the like or pick up a flyer at the circulation desk. Staff members will be present throughout the summer, most reliably via email.

- **Library closes: 19h00 Saturday 18 June**
- **Library reopens: 12h00 Tuesday 2 August**
- **August hours** (through Saturday August 27):
Tuesday-Saturday 12h00-18h00; closed Sundays
- **Normal hours resume: Tuesday 30 August**

Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 14 June 2011
19h30-21h00**

All members of the Library, and interested non-members too, are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the American Library in Paris, Inc., a membership corporation organized under the laws of Delaware, operating as a foreign association in France.

A slate of three new trustees will be proposed for election to four-year terms: **Alain Aubry, Neil Janin, and Aymar de Lencquesaing.**

Members of the board of trustees and the director will report on the activities of the Library since the last meeting and sketch the plans for the year ahead, including a preview of the summer renovations with comments from director Charles Trueheart and consulting architect Lia Kiladis.

INSIDE THE LIBRARY

Meet the kitchen gardener of Versailles



The Library will welcome **Antoine Jacobsohn**, *potager du roi* (head of the kitchen garden) at the Chateau de Versailles, on Wednesday 15 June at 19h30.

Join us as the Library's Evenings with Gardens series continues in the fall with **Patrice Fustier** of Le Domaine de Courson on Wednesday 5 October.



Volunteers and interns

Jennifer Dobson

Jennifer Dobson has been a volunteer at the Library since January 2010.

"Having left all of my books in storage back in the States, I came looking for reading material. But what I found was a small haven. I love the adventure of being an expat, but sometimes it's good to have somewhere familiar to take a break from the challenges that come with life abroad."

Dobson grew up in Stillwater, Oklahoma and attended Oklahoma State University. She worked as a children's portrait photographer and lived in Minneapolis for six years before coming to Paris two years ago.

On average, she works as a Library volunteer four hours a week. "I volunteer in the children's room during story hour. We read, sing songs, and do crafts with the kids. After story hour, I help with shelving or any other projects Celeste may have. I've also volunteered at special events like the Halloween and Christmas parties. Recently, I was also the submissions coordinator for the Young Authors' Fiction Festival."

Youth Librarian Celeste Rhoads says, "Jennifer is fantastic. She has been assisting with Wednesday Story Hour, and has also bravely volunteered for all of the big holiday parties in the youth department. She is just great with kids. I don't know what I would do without her on Wednesday afternoons."



The summer crew

Every summer — and in fact throughout the year — the Library welcomes interns who participate actively in both the back-office operations of the Library and in service capacities for our members.

This summer for varying periods of time — and including extraordinary duties associated with the shifting of our collections during renovations — we are pleased to have with us: **Marina Mestchersky**, ISIT- Institut de management et de communication interculturels, Paris; **Aïman Kobaa**, Lycée Professionnel Gustave Eiffel, Paris; **Christianne Beasley**, Smith College in Massachusetts; **Angela Hin**, Université de Paris-Descartes; **Nicholas Tonckens**, Phillips Academy in Massachusetts; **Victoria Bonwell**, **Fiona Frattini**, **Lea Steiner**, and **Ines Pozas**, International School of Paris; **Yuji Develle** and **Michael de Looper**, Ecole Active Bilingue Jeannine Manuel, Paris; **Magda Maaoui**, École normale supérieure de Lyon; **Jelle van der Hilst**, Concord-Carlisle High School in Massachusetts; **Sophie Carrère**, ISIT; **Alison Dundy**, Palmer School of Library and Information Science, New York; **Jessica Mason**, University of Nottingham (UK).

A second day of book sales

Increasingly popular, and increasingly helpful to the Library, the huge book sales normally on the first Saturday of every month are now two-day events, beginning with this Saturday and Sunday **4-5 June** and resuming on Saturday and Sunday **6-7 August**.

Ex Libris, the newsletter of the American Library in Paris, is published four times a year, in March, June, September and December. Current and past issues of the newsletter are available at www.americanlibraryinparis.org

A CELEBRATION OF BOOKS

Continued from page 1. William Styron.

than a dozen authors, including Annie Cohen-Solal, Charles Glass, Diane Johnson, Philippe Labro, Jake Lamar, Tilar Mazzeo, Dinaw Mengestu, Donald Morrison, Alan Riding, Elaine Sciolino, William Jay Smith, Dana Thomas, and Lily Tuck.

William D. Torchiana, chairman of the Library's board of trustees, addressed the dinner guests, citing three figures that describe the Library's current vitality:

— 83,118 is the number of Library visitors last year;

— 72 is the number of evening programs at the Library in 2010;

— 9.5 is the number of employees who work at the Library, stated as full-time equivalents.

These figures suggest “what makes the American Library the very special place it has become for a community of students, families, scholars, and readers of all ages,” Torchiana said. He also alluded to a fourth number — 5 million, the number of euros the Library is seeking in its current fundraising campaign for the Second Century, now nearing the halfway point toward its target.

Library director Charles Trueheart, in his remarks, cited the succession of distinguished writers who have served as recent gala speakers — Christopher Buckley, Laurent de Brunhoff, Alison Lurie, Adam Gopnik, Antonia Fraser, Alberto Manguel, Paul Auster, Louis Auchincloss, and

Referring to recent events in the news, Trueheart also noted “the perfect timing of drawing to Paris as our gala speaker tonight an American criminal defense lawyer and former prosecutor — and someone who knows how to create a suspenseful plot and a surprising outcome out of a set of incomprehensible circumstances.”

The gala dinner guests at 18 tables included scores of members of the Library, their friends, out-of-town guests and adult offspring, as well as trustees and other institutional leaders and supporters. Trueheart thanked the gala sponsors, listed on page 4, and recognized former board of trustees chairman Charmaine Donnelly; Marshall Wais, president of the Library's USA Foundation; Advisory Council chairman James Lowenstein; Writers Council chairman Diane Johnson; and former trustees Ishtar Méjanès and Sarah de Lencquesaing.

Torchiana and Trueheart both thanked the key people responsible for the gala dinner itself: trustee Shelley de Rouvray, the gala chairman, and development manager Samantha Gardner, as well as volunteer gala coordinator Anne Hunt, among other staff members and volunteers who



worked to make the gala a great success.

Guests were entertained before dinner by Yale University's Redhot & Blue *a capella* group and throughout the evening participated actively in a silent auction of items — private dinners and guided tours, works of art and expensive books — that raised more funds for the Library.



FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS AT THE GALA. Left: Marshall Wais, president of the USA Foundation board of directors, with Judy Swanson and Erica Swanson. Right: Alan Cranston, Melissa Cranston, Drue Glauber, and Jennifer Dalrymple. Top right: The gala program, with a cover image of the American Library in 1928 by the celebrated photographer André Kertesz, “Chaises à la bibliothèque américaine.”

E-books and publishing monopolies

Following are excerpts from remarks delivered by Scott Turow at the 2011 American Library in Paris gala dinner on 24 May 2011:

■ Both authors and libraries are right now, whether they realize it or not, endangered species. This is a daunting future from the perspective of an author and a lawyer and the position I occupy as president of Authors Guild, the largest membership guild of professional writers in the United States.

■ Publishers *love* e-books. Because they don't have to buy paper, don't have to print them, warehouse them or ship them. And best of all there is no risk of returns. In the U.S., publishers sell books at their own risk. If the retailer can't sell them, they come back. But an e-book sale is irrevocable. That book is sold. So publishers are going to migrate to this system. That will in turn put huge downward pressures on book prices; because of all those built-in costs, printed books will have very hard time competing.

■ There is another more subtle threat. The advances in technology are posing threats of monopolization



of a kind that didn't exist years ago. ... If all e-books end up being sold on one platform, for example, the company that controls that platform will control most of American literature. And that, frankly, is what looks to be happening with the Kindle.

■ Yesterday Amazon announced that it had formed its own publishing imprint headed by Larry Kirshbaum. Larry really was the greatest American publisher at the end of the 20th century and I expect he will be equally as successful at Amazon.

I am delighted for Larry but scared to death for the rest of us. I expect Amazon to use its leverage as still far and away the largest seller of e-books, and with e-books growing as a greater percentage of the market, I think their goal is clearly to drive paper publishers out of business.

■ Each technological improvement is going to present the same challenge because the technologist patent is going to stand between the reader and the writer. Whoever figures out how to create some plastic medium that has all the advantages of the broadsheet newspaper will be in the same position to basically control the newspaper business.

■ Literature will surely survive. The novel will surely survive. The tradition of telling stories through written words will obviously continue for many reasons. One of them is the pure economy of text. They say that a picture is worth a 1000 words, but take a look at your hard drive and see how much space is consumed by that picture. In point of fact words are a remarkably efficient means of communicating.

Transcribed by Grant Rosenberg

The American Library in Paris is grateful to the following sponsors for their generous support of the 2011 Gala Dinner

The Annenberg Foundation Marshall and Deborah Wais

Sarah and Edouard-François de Lencquesaing

Charmaine Donnelly and Gerard Pfauwadel

Ishtar and Jean-François Méjanès

Sullivan and Cromwell LLP

JC Lattès

AIRFRANCE



MACMILLAN

CHANEL



AMERICAN SCHOOL
OF PARIS Founded 1946

International Herald Tribune

A NIGHT AT THE GALA



SCENES AT THE LIBRARY GALA: (1) The Salon Auteuil at the Four Seasons Hotel George V; (2) In the receiving line, Wallace Baker and Antoinette Katharina are greeted by Charles Trueheart, Scott Turow, Shelley de Rouvray, and William Torchiana; (3) Torchiana, chairman of the board of trustees, addresses the gala guests; (4) Jeffrey Archambault, Shelley de Rouvray, Angela Bliss, Jeanne Fellowes, and Philippe Gas enjoying Redhot & Blue; (5) Charles Dilley and Anne Marie Reijnen examine the auction catalog; (6) Tilar Mazzeo and Scott Turow sharing a light moment; (7) left to right: Elaine Sciolino, Susan Tolson, Dana Thomas, and, rear, Peter Fellowes and Mary Lou Bradley; (8) Donald Morrison, Jake Lamar, Alan Riding, and Scott Turow conferring after dinner; (9) U.S. Ambassador Charles Rivkin and Philippe Labro.
Photographs by David Bacher



THE YOUTH LIBRARY



The Library will be closed for renovations from 19 June through 31 July, but don't forget to keep reading in the meantime. The summer reading club continues until the end of August, so get your read-on!

Meanwhile, it's

Summertime!

Saturday 11 June
15h00-16h00
Ages 6+

You're invited to explore the new Children's Room and Teen Mezzanine (see pictures on the left) during an afternoon of summer stories and activities. Share some sunshine and cheer as we find out about holidays happening all over the world this season!

A heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who helped move the children's collection to its new home. They donated their time and sweat and we simply couldn't have done it without them! Thank you Carole Black, Jennifer Dobson, Caitlin Gallagher, Chris-

Bookworms

*The book club
for 9-12 year olds*

28 May: 12h00-13h00
4 June: 12h00-13h00
11 June: 12h00-13h00

Bookworms is spending the month with *Bunnicula – the Rabbit-tale of Mystery*. Is Bunnicula really a vampire bunny? We'll find out together as we unravel the story over three consecutive Saturday afternoons.

Tri (or More) Wizard Tournament for Muggles

Saturday 18 June
15h00-16h00
Ages 6+

Just in time for the last Harry Potter movie!

Come in and test your knowledge of all things Potter related. There will be a sorting, and a trivia tournament, along with snacks and prizes.

Dress in your best wizarding attire and come ready for a challenge.



Thanks to Colgate-Palmolive

Colgate-Palmolive recently made a donation to the Library to support its children's activities and collections, notably by providing free copies of books being read by our book groups, **Bookworms** (for ages 9-12) and **Teen Bookworms** (for ages 12+). The gift also will allow us to replace items in our outdated VHS collection with new DVDs for young people. The Library and all of its members are grateful for this corporate support.

Thanks to Joan Johnson

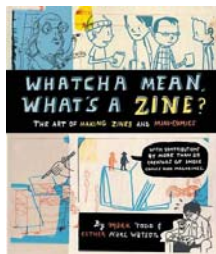
The Library is grateful to Joan Johnson of Andover, Massachusetts, for her annual support of Library children's programs in memory of her daughter, Lauren Picard, "who loved children, reading, and the wonder of Paris." Joan Johnson, an active Cornell alumna with strong ties to Paris through her daughter's experiences here, visited the Library in May, as she does every year, and read stories at the "Bears, Bears, Bears Story Hour." Thank you, Joan!

TEENS AND CHILDREN

Teen Zine Night: Volume 3

Friday 3 June
19h00-21h00

Ages 12+



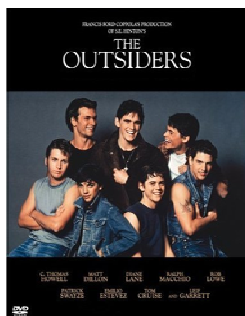
Bring your creativity and get ready to put the finishing touches on the Library's Teen Zine. We've got photographs and writing, now we need to add reviews, comics, illustrations and interviews. We'll have all the supplies you need and, of course, lots of great snacks to feed your brain.

We'll be using the new Teen Mezzanine and you can check out the upcycled art now on display.

Teen Movie Night

Friday 19 August
19h00-21h00

Ages 12+



The Library will host a special screening of *The Outsiders*, based on the classic Young Adult novel by S.E. Hinton. Copies of the book will be available for all participants. Enjoy popcorn, treats and good discussion during this special evening event.

**Sign-up is required
for all teen events!**

The Summer Reading Club

Kick-Off Party starring

Matt Black!

Saturday 4 June

15h00-16h30

Ages 6+



Come pick up your summer reading club booklet and join us for the festivities as we kick-off the Library's annual summer reading club. There will be fact, fiction and fun, a sing along with special guest Matt Black and other surprises!

How does it work? You pick up a booklet here at the Library. Then, throughout the summer, you'll fill it in with the title and author of the books you read. For each title, you'll get a sticker in the booklet and at the end of the summer all participants will receive prizes for their reading.

Barking for books

Thursday 9 June

16h00-18h00

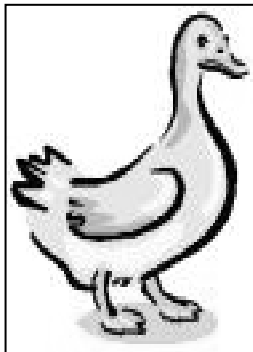
Ages 6+

Sign up to read with Sammy during his last visit here at the Library before he returns home to California. Sammy is a certified therapy dog and he just loves to hear kids read. Email the youth librarian to reserve your 15- minute slot to read with Sammy. It's a barking good time!

Sign-up required!



Reading aloud for the very young



Ages 1-3: The next Mother Goose Lap-sits will be held on 16 June, 4 August, 18 August from 10h30-11h00. Sign-up requested. Each child must be accompanied by an adult lap.

Ages 3-5: Wednesday Story Hour. No sign-up needed. On 3 August, 10 August, 17 August and 24 August, Story Hour will be held on Wednesdays from 11h00-12h00. Please note change of time.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

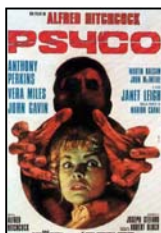
Saturday 4 June 10h00-19h00
and Sunday 5 June 13h00-19h00

Used Book Sale at the Library. A last chance before the summer hiatus to stock up on a large volume of books.

Tuesday 7 June 19h30

A Night at the Movies

Judith Merians explores Alfred Hitchcock's "**Psycho**."



Wednesday 8 June 19h30

Evenings with an Author

Award-winning novelist **Dinaw Mengestu** presents his new book, *How to Read the Air*.



Tuesday 14 June 19h30

Annual General Meeting of the American Library in Paris. All are welcome.

Wednesday 15 June 19h30

Evenings with Gardens

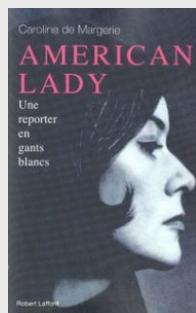
The Potager du Roi (head gardener) at Versailles
Antoine Jacobsohn presents the King's Garden.

Wednesday 29 June 18h30 **NOTE SPECIAL TIME**

The American Library @ France -Amériques

A special evening event at France-Amériques, 9, avenue Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 8th arrondissement.

Caroline de Margerie presents *American Lady: Une reporter en gants blancs*, a new biography of Susan Mary Alsop, the American aristocrat, a witness to postwar Paris and then New Frontier Washington, a lover and wife of celebrated men. The book has been short-listed for the Prix France-Amériques. The program is in English.



This is a catered event with champagne and hors d'oeuvres. The cost is €10 for members of the American Library in Paris. Reservations are essential at:

www.france-ameriques.org

And coming in the evenings this fall...

New York Times Paris correspondent **Elaine Sciolino** presents *La Seduction: How The French Play the Game of Life ...* The **Aristotle Circle**, a New York educational counselling service, demystifies the college application process for the students and families ... **Stéphane Hessel**, author of the French bestselling phenomenon *Indignez-Vous!*, offers an English-language presentation of the translation, *Time for Outrage!* ... Photographer **Jennifer Huxta** on the intersection between imagery and poetry ... **Tatiana de Rosnay**, author of *Sarah's Key*, explores her new novel, *Rose* ... **Tama Carroll** begins her film series with the "Golden Age of Hollywood" ... **Carolyn Burke** discusses her latest biography, *No Regrets: The Life of Edith Piaf* ... The popular *Evenings with Gardens* series continues with **Patrice Fustier** on Le Domaine de Courson ... **Cornell Club of France** presents an evening conversation around *Homer & Langley*, by E. L. Doctorow ... Award-winning author **Anne Marsella** reads from *The Baby in Belleville* ... **Chris Boïcos** on "Images of Paris and French Society from the Commune to the Belle Epoque" ... Cookbook celebrity **Joan Nathan** sets the table for *Quiches, Kugels and Couscous: My Search for Jewish Cooking in France* ... INSEAD professor **Linda Brimm** reports on her research into *Global Cosmopolitans* ... Watch **e-Libris** in August, pick up the September **Ex Libris**, or consult the Library website in August for the rentrée calendar of events.

10, rue du Général Camou
75007 Paris
01 53 59 12 60

www.americanlibraryinparis.org

Tuesday- Saturday, 10h00-19h00

Sunday, 13h00-19h00

NOTE SPECIAL SUMMER HOURS ON COVER



Métro: Ecole Militaire (line 8)
or Alma-Marceau (line 9)

Bus: 42, 63, 69, 80, 82, 87, 92

RER C: Pont de l'Alma

Vélib': 43, av. Rapp station n° 7024