

The Distance Between Us by Reyna Grande

Current Library Hours

Monday: 10-6
Tuesday: 12-8
Wednesday: 2-6
Thursday: 10-6
Friday: 10-6
Saturday and Sunday: 1-5
(Stay tuned for possible changes)

In this issue:

Hoopla! NEW!	2
New Members	2
Book Sale	2
Roswell Roots	2
— Worried?	2
Roswell Reads	3
eCampus	3
Free time?	3
Book Clubs	3
Membership renewal	3
Atlanta Authors	4
Message from the President	4
Book Reviews	4

Two hundred thirty-four people attended the Roswell Reads luncheon to hear award-winning author Reyna Grande discuss her heart-wrenching memoir.

According to Reyna, her first draft was very angry in tone; she had to step back and get to know her parents as well as she does her fictional characters in other books to develop an objective approach that was very long in coming. Although it took her many years, she found that persevering with the memoir helped her to understand her parents better and, ultimately, on some level, to be able to understand and forgive them, a healing experience.

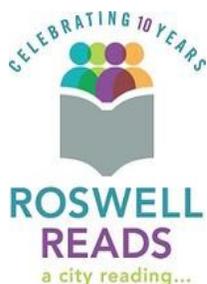
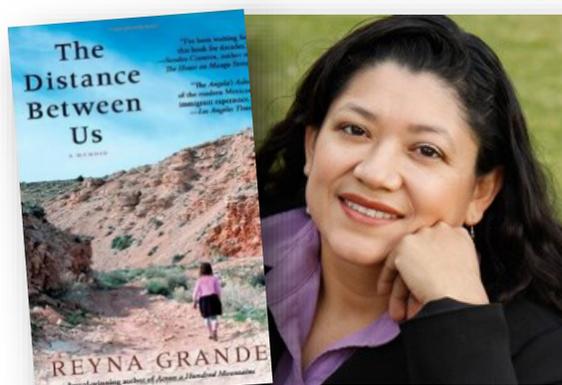
In keeping with her desire to inspire others, Reyna arrived a day early to visit with an ESL group sponsored by Roswell Presbyterian

Church and to visit middle and high school students at The Cottage School.

Reyna has previously authored two books, *Across a Hundred Mountains* in 2006 and *Dancing with Butterflies* in 2009. She is a promoter of Latina literature, teaches creative writing, speaks at schools across the nation, and is working on her next novel.

Programs complementing Reyna's memoir included a reading of *My Diary from Here to There*, a children's book by Amada Irma Perez, read in English and Spanish by Vicky Jaksic and Martha Powell, Fulton County Media Specialists, at the library; and a reading of the same book, again in English and Spanish, by Kelly Frommer, RR Committee, and Iris Scuderi, a Roswell Police Officer, to STAR House participants at Esther Jackson Elementary School.

This was the first time that Roswell Reads programs were presented in two languages.



Roswell Reads Celebrates Ten Years

Roswell Reads celebrated its tenth year at the annual Literary Luncheon, March 14. The program was begun at the request of a citizen who emailed City Hall to suggest a 'community reads' program. Ann Siebert has since moved away, but she returned for the celebration and was recognized and welcomed by luncheon attendees. Readers who have attended for ten years were recognized, as well.

Members of the Roswell Reads committee who have served since its inception are Lu Conti, Morgan Timmis, Kayron Bearden, Mary Apps, Lisa Pizzuto, and Janice Tedford.

Roswell Reads is sponsored by the city, our library and our Friends group which underwrites the expenses. The programs are free and open to the public. The committee is made up of representatives from the program's sponsors, local schools, clubs, and the community.

NEW!!



Instantly borrow free digital movies, music and more 24/7 with your library card.

hoopla is a digital media service available through the library that allows you to borrow a great selection of movies, television shows, educational/instructional videos, documentaries, full music albums, and audiobooks via your browser, smartphone or tablet (via iOS devices and select Android devices). You can borrow any digital title your library has made available, just like the traditional books, DVDs and CDs you have come to expect. Whether you're looking for a box office hit or a classic, there is sure to be something you'll enjoy again and again.

Try it out! afpls.org

**Welcome to Our
New Members**

Deanna Boe
Judy and Scott Crothers
Barbara P. Erdman
Jan Pardue

Winter Book Sale Results

The sale was a grand success!
\$5,779.35!!

Thank you to all of you who made donations.
Without you we are nothing!

And thank you to our book-sale team; it's the best!

Roswell Roots Presenters



Vanessa Slaton, Story-telling Artist, presented a total experience of Africa with folktales, music, costumes and artifacts.



Dr. Zellie Rainey Orr presented a program on unsung heroes in WWII aviation focusing on the Tuskegee Airmen of Georgia.



Eleanor Shelton, genealogist, encouraged her audience to celebrate family history and leave a legacy for future generations.



NBA All-Star Joe Barry Carroll, artist and author, told his unique story, shared his talents and introduced and signed his memoir.

Worried About Libraries? *Are they about to go the way of the dinosaurs?*

Do the children you know prefer to go on the internet for information than go to the library? Do your friends (and maybe you) purchase titles online and download books to an e-reader? Is that a cause for concern?

The Pew Research Center, a non-partisan fact tank that conducts public opinion polling, has just concluded a three-year study into the role of libraries in the lives of Americans. There was a special focus on Millennials, "a key stakeholder group affecting the future of communities, libraries, book publishers and media makers of all kinds, as well as the tone of the broader culture."

Their conclusions were reassuring. Our libraries are healthy, library usage has increased, people (even non-library users!) have positive attitudes toward libraries, and borrowing books still has an important place in our lives. Go to pewresearch.org, click on Topics (in the black ribbon), and choose L for libraries; you'll find more than you ever wanted to know—all reassuring—about the future of libraries.

Pictures from Roswell Reads



Kelly Frommer reading *My Diary from Here to There* to STAR House children



Officer Iris Scuderi reading in Spanish to children at Esther Jackson Elementary School.



The original Roswell Reads Committee members present at the luncheon. From left to right, Kayron Bearden, Lisa Pizzuto, Lu Conti, Janice Tedford, Morgan Timmis, Anne Siebert, Mary Apps



STAR House was this year's Community Outreach partner. Seeking, Teaching and Reaching

DO YOU HAVE FREE TIME?

If you do and would like to be helpful, the Roswell Library is under-staffed and the current staff is over-worked; they would love help shelving books. If you can help, click [here for a volunteer application](#). Complete it and take it to the library; become a member of the support team. Many thanks!



Wouldn't it be great if there were hundreds of free online classes that you could take according to your schedule, your lifestyle, and your interests? It's **Universal Class**.

Wouldn't it be fun to sit at a computer with your young child or grandchild on your lap and select from hundreds of fiction or non-fiction books to read or watch together? It's **BookFLIX**.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if your teenaged son or daughter could find the official GA Driver's Handbook online and practice the DMV Permit test and driver's tests before test day? It's **GA-Driver Tests**.

Where can you do all this (and more)? Where can you find eight unique educational databases, some that offer continuing education credits, some that issue certificates upon successful completion, some that open new, creative worlds? At **eCampus**, that's where! All you need is an up-to-date Atlanta-Fulton Public Library card and it's yours.

Go to afpls.org and there, in the middle of the front page, is an e-Campus link; not surprisingly, it looks just like the graphic at the top of this article. Log in and learn!

If you need more information about this enriching resource, contact Jurée Hall, Project Coordinator, at juree.hall@fultoncountyga.gov

Book Clubs

Mystery Readers: *Shut Your Eyes Tight*—a Dave Gurney Novel by John Verdon. April 28th, 6:45-7:30

Noonday Nosh: *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea April 21st, 12:00 noon

Membership Renewal

You will receive an email when your membership expires. We appreciate your support.

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Teacher \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (55+) \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor/Business \$50 | |

For information about volunteering, please either contact a Friends member or e-mail the Friends at roswellgafriends@gmail.com

Name _____

Address _____

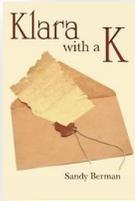
City/State/Zip _____

Phones: Home _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Please enclose your check and mail to Friends of the Roswell Library (or FoRL), 115 Norcross St., Roswell, GA 30075

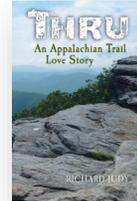
Upcoming Atlanta Authors Appearances



Sandra Berman
Klara with a K
 Saturday, April 25th
 2 pm



Karen White
A Long Time Gone
 Sunday, May 3rd
 2 pm



Richard Judy
Thru - An Appalachian Love Story
 Saturday, June 13th, 2 pm

Message from the President

"Read at every wait; read at all hours; read within leisure; read in times of labor; read as one goes in; read as one goes out. The task of the educated mind is simply put: read to lead." -Cicero

It has been my honor to be the President of the Friends of Roswell Library for the last four years; I learned many things and met many nice people. I will really enjoy watching the library transition back to the original hours, seeing the new faces behind the desk, and reading more books.

I wish the new Board President all the very best. I know she will do a wonderful job of leading this very competent and energetic group forward, with your active support and participation.

We determine the Board's focus each year at our annual planning meeting that takes place in March. The budget for 2015/16 has been prepared and we have made plans to support the library in many ways. Toward this goal, we do our best to

remain informed of what an up-to-date library should offer: we learn from patrons; we learn from other libraries; we attend quarterly Friends Council Meetings at the main library; and we belong to a National Organization, United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.

Equally important is that we let you, our members, know that your thoughts, ideas, wishes and experiences are important to us. What we are doing, how we spend our money, and how we advocate for the library is dependent upon your requirements as a library patron.

At our Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 3, we will introduce to you the new officers and Board Members, acknowledge and thank our many wonderful volunteers, and

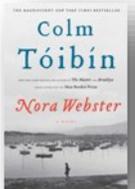
enjoy our guest speaker, Atlanta author Karen White. (She has a new book coming out May 12th – *The Sound of Glass*. www.karen-white.com) Karen is a returning Annual Meeting guest and we are delighted. We hope you will attend.

[National Library Week](#) will be observed April 12th --18th with the theme, "Unlimited possibilities @ your library®." During that same week we'll observe National Library Workers' Day, Tuesday, April 14th. If you're in the library on the 14th, please thank our wonderful, hard-working library staff.

Once again, it has been my pleasure to be your president. Reading is the best!

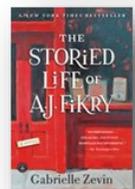
Jane Swift

Book Reviews



Nora Webster by Colm Tóibín

This is one of the most poignant stories I've ever read. There are so many layers - grief, families, self-discovery and music. As the story unfolds, we learn more about Nora - what's in her heart, mind and spirit. Her transformation from grieving widow to independent woman mirrors the struggles other people endure after a profound loss. Every character is carefully and lovingly drawn, their subtleties emerging as the novel progresses. Tóibín's narrative is so rich it's almost as if he is painting the Irish landscape on Nora's soul. Sometimes Irish literature seems out of reach because of the depth of the narratives, but this story invites readers in and welcomes them to stay awhile. This is a beautiful book.



The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin

This charming novel starts slowly, but pulls you in and gets a hold of you and keeps you hanging on until you're knee-deep in the story. A fast-paced narrative that seems far-fetched at times, it hums merrily along and never gets beyond reach. The storyline is deceptively simple: a widower/bookstore owner adopts a baby, finds love in more ways than one and, even though the ending isn't happily ever after, the characters are richer for their experiences together. Isn't that what life is about, anyway?

This is a great story, with great characters and great writing.

(Reviews by Julia Rattledge)