

Rochester Public Library News and Events

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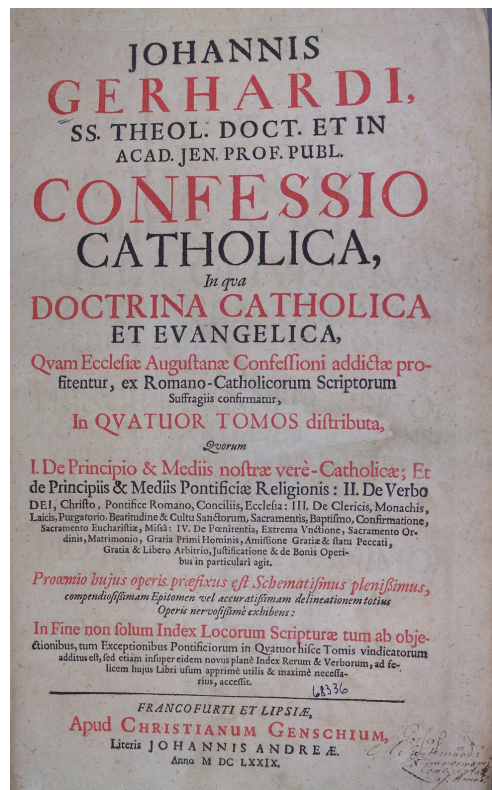
November 2009

Libraries Change Lives

Bringing the Past into the Future - Digitizing old Text



Joseph Schmidt holding the copy of *Confessio Catholica* which was interlibrary loaned from St. Louis.



The cover page of *Confessio Catholica* which was printed in 1679.

Joseph Schmidt, who has been spending quite a bit of time in the library lately, is in the midst of a several years' long project. Joseph, who studies theology as a hobby, looked up the German theologian Johann Gerhard on Wikipedia and found out that his most famous book, *Confessio Catholica*, was not available on the Internet. He decided to do something about that. Some background: Johann Gerhard was a German Orthodox theologian (1582 – 1637). His book seeks to prove the evangelical and catholic character of the doctrine of the Augsburg Confession from the writings of approved Roman Catholic authors. It offers an extensive apology and polemic of the Evangelical Creed. [This being arguments in favor of what is known as the Lutheran Reformation and Lutheranism].

The Augsburg Confession is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Lutheran Reformation. The Augsburg Confession was written in both German and Latin, and was presented by a number of German rulers and free-cities at the Diet of Augsburg on June 25, 1530. The Holy Roman Emperor Charles V had called on the princes and free territories in Germany to explain their religious convictions in an attempt to restore religious and political unity in the Holy Roman Empire. The Augsburg Confession consists of 28 articles presented by Lutheran princes and representatives of "free cities" at the Diet of Augsburg that set forth what the Lutherans believed, taught and confessed in

positive (theses) and negative (antitheses) statements. The theses are 21 Chief Articles of Faith describing the normative principles of Christian faith held by the Lutherans; the antitheses are seven statements describing what they viewed as abuses of the Christian faith present in the Roman church.

Joseph, in his blog: confessio-catholica.blogspot.com, explains that his blog is dedicated exclusively to making available the Latin text of Johann Gerhard's *Confessio Catholica*, to make it available to scholars online and to preserve the book from further handling. This is why he has been spending a lot of time in the library.

Joseph worked with the reference librarians at the Rochester Public Library to get a copy of the book from the Concordia Theological Semi-

Continued on back page



A drawing of Johann Gerhard, Lutheran theologian and author of *Confessio Catholica*.

November 2009

All events at Rochester Public Library are free and open to the public

Sunday, November 1

Visiting Author: Charles Baxter Auditorium 2:00 pm

Charles Baxter was born in Minneapolis and graduated from Macalester College, in St. Paul. After completing graduate work in English at the State University of New York at Buffalo, he taught for several years at Wayne State University in Detroit. In 1989, he moved to the Department of English at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and its MFA program. He now teaches at the University of Minnesota.

Baxter is the author of 4 novels, 4 collections of short stories, 3 collections of poems, a collection of essays on fiction and he is the editor of other works. His recent novel, *The Soul Thief*, has been nominated for a Minnesota Book Award; his previous book, *The Art of Subtext: Beyond Plot*, won this award in 2008.

The Visiting Author Series is sponsored by the Friends of the Rochester Public Library. This particular event is supported by the Minnesota Book Awards through a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education – State Library Services and the Minnesota Library Foundation. The Minnesota Book Awards is a project of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, in partnership with the Saint Paul Public Library and the Office of the Saint Paul Mayor. For more information on the Minnesota Book Awards, visit www.thefriends.org.

Tuesday, November 3

Bedtime Stories Auditorium 6:30 pm

Puppets, stories, and films to give you sweet dreams.

Wednesday, November 4

iFilms: International and Independent Films Auditorium 6:00 pm

Gigante (Uruguay / Drama-Comedy | in Spanish w/ English subtitles)
Jara is a shy and lonely 35-year-old security guard at a supermarket on the outskirts of Montevideo. He works the night shift, monitoring the

surveillance cameras of the entire building. One night, Jara discovers Julia, a 25-year-old cleaning woman, through one of the cameras and is immediately attracted to her. Night after night, he watches her on the cameras while she works. Soon he starts following her after work: to the cinema, the beach and even on a date with another man. Jara's life becomes a series of routines and rituals around Julia; eventually he finds himself at a crossroad and must decide whether to give up his obsession or confront it. *The iFilm series is intended for mature adults. Please provide guidance to your children.*

Thursday, November 5

Stories for Toddlers and Twos Auditorium 10:00 am

Stories, rhymes, puppets, and films for children 18-36 months of age and their parents or care providers.

Saturday, November 7

Hooray for Saturday! Musical Fun for Everyone Auditorium 10:30 am

Join us for some musical fun! Kindermusik instructor Diane Shopteau presents an interactive program filled with song, movement, and rhythm instruments for the entire family to enjoy.

Tuesday, November 10

Writing Group Meeting Room A 6:30 pm

Once a month we will meet to read and critique member's writing. The goal is to improve our writing in a friendly, supportive environment.

YA Game Night Auditorium 7:00 pm

Want to try your hand at Wii? Need to challenge your Guitar Hero skills? Do you like to Dance, Dance Revolution? Then come to our game night and have some fun playing games with other local teens.

Saturday, November 14

Hooray for Saturday! Family Films Auditorium 10:30 am

Legend of Johnny Appleseed and Legend of Paul Bunyan Two favorite American folk heroes come to life through the colorful animation of Walt Disney.

Wednesday, November 18

Digital Photo Sharing Class Meeting Room B 10:00 am

Learn how to post digital photos on the Internet to share with family and friends. Please bring some digital photos (flash drive, CD-ROM memory card or camera) to use during class.

Friday, November 20

Digital Microfilm Scanner Meeting Room B 3:30 pm

Use this computer to look at old newspapers, scan and e-mail articles. Although genealogists find this technology helpful, anyone is welcome. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 328-2309.

Saturday, November 21

Hooray for Saturday! Family Films Auditorium 10:30 am

Molly's Pilgrim. In this warm, thought-provoking film, a young Russian immigrant must prove to her classmates that "it takes all kinds of Pilgrims to make a Thanksgiving."

Giving Thanks. Known as the Thanksgiving Address, this inspiring Native American message is portrayed in beautiful animation.

National Survivors of Suicide Day Auditorium 1:00 pm

The Saturday before Thanksgiving was designated as National Survivors of Suicide Day by U.S. Senate resolution in 1999 through the efforts of Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, who lost his father to suicide. Every year, on this day, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention sponsors a

worldwide event to provide an opportunity for survivors of suicide to come together for support, healing, information and empowerment. This unique network of healing conferences helps survivors connect with others who have experienced the tragedy of suicide loss, and express and understand the powerful emotions they experience. *Co-Sponsored by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention*

Sunday, November 22

Yaggy Colby History Lecture

Auditorium 2:30 pm

Michael Norman will be presenting from his recently released book *The Nearly Departed* which takes a look at Minnesota ghost stories and legends.

Tuesday, November 24

Young Adult Writer's Group

Meeting Room A 7:00 pm

Do you like to write? Would you like to meet other tweens/teens who like to write? Would you like to share your work, and get advice on how to improve? If the answer is yes, then join our meetings.

Saturday, November 28

Hooray for Saturday! Family Film

Auditorium 10:30 am

The Incredible Journey This classic adventure tells the story of three unlikely animal companions—a Labrador retriever, Bull terrier, and a Siamese cat—who battle their way home across 200 miles of Canadian wilderness.



That Writing Contest winners (Left to Right): Haonan Du, Stephani Sedarski, Alexander Philips, Chelsey Shimek, Mark Lower, Elaina Andre, Amy McMeeking, Snigdha Roy

What's @ the Library?

Storytime Kits

All sorts of joy and fun are stuffed into big blue tubs wearing bright yellow lids with big googly eyes. These are our Storytime kits. They contain themed material to emphasize literacy and language use for 2 - 6 year-olds. In other words, they contain a bunch of fun stuff for kids to use and play with, and the best part: they probably don't realize they're learning anything.

Every item inside the kits reflects a certain theme. Currently, we have 68 themes. All kits contain a handful of books and other fun extras that help reinforce the theme. Some kits have puppets, puzzles, stuffed animals, manipulative toys, activity sheets, and other educational tools. *Warning:* Some items may be a choking hazard for children under three years of age. Please use items under close adult supervision.

Storytime kits, as you can imagine, are in high demand. You can reserve a kit up to a year in advance for a specific two-week period. There is a \$5.00/day late fee on these kits. Funding for our Storytime Kits was provided by:

- Rochester Public Library Foundation
- Judy and Jim Sloan Foundation
- Wal-Mart North, Rochester MN
- Robert and Sarah Keller
- Rochester Kiwanis Clubs
- Sam's Club
- Fundraiser by Ann Farnell and Jane Callahan

To reserve a kit, or if you have comments, suggestions, or questions please call (507) 328-2303. 📖

That Writing Contest Winners Announced

Age 10-12

Poetry

1st Place - Alexander Phillips

2nd Place - Annalise Meier

Short Story

1st Place - Michelle Wang

2nd Place - Elaina Andre

Age 13-15

Poetry

1st Place - Stephanie Sedarski

2nd Place - Amy McMeeking

Short Story

1st Place - Karla Cecilia Reyes Sanches

2nd Place - Haonan Du

Age 16-18

Poetry

1st Place - Snigdha Roy

2nd Place - Leah Karsten

Short Story

1st Place - Chelsey Shimek

2nd Place - Mark Lower

Library Newsletter

Director	Audrey Betcher
Editor	John Hunziker
Layout/Design	Ginny Erbe

Libraries Change Lives continued ...

nary in St. Louis so that he could take digital photographs of the pages. The interesting part of this is that nearly all copies of the book are in rare book rooms of libraries and museums and are rarely allowed out, much less shipped to another library a few states away.

The book was delivered to the Rochester Public Library via UPS, carefully packed and insured. Joseph's project entails setting up a tripod and a hanger for his digital camera and taking three separate photos of each page and then using photo merge in Photoshop to produce a single image. He is nearly two-thirds finished with the odd-numbered pages, and then he has the even-numbered pages to photograph. The book is 1600 pages in length. Each page is two columns and is in Latin. The pages are a tan color on hand-made paper and printed by hand on a single-page printing press. It was published in 1679. The book was originally printed as four separate texts from 1634-1637. Those four books were combined into a single large volume in the 1679 book that Joseph is photographing. 📖



To capture every detail, Joseph uses a camera mounted on an extension rod from the tripod. He takes three photographs of each page of the book and merges them.

The Goose Talks Back

Early Sunday, September 27, our Bard was involved in a fist fight with an inebriated man from Utah. We decided it was time for the goose to talk back so we held a contest for the best literary one-line comeback. We had entries from Facebook, Twitter and by scrap-of-paper method. And the winner of the Goose Talks Back contest is... *I'm sorry to say so, But, sadly it's true, That bang-ups and hang-ups, Can happen to you.* -Dr. Seuss, *Oh, the Places You'll Go*, submitted by Tauna Bodell Sanderson.

Thank you all for participating and making it a fun contest.

In the meantime, the Bard has migrated from the sidewalk to inside the library to catch his wind and be repaired from being sucker-punched. 📖



The damage to the goose's hat is clearly seen in this photo.

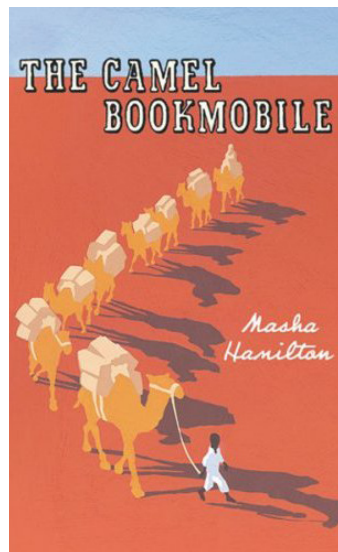
Rochester Reads 2010

The Rochester Reads 2010 titles have been announced: *The Camel Bookmobile* by Masha Hamilton; *Home of the Brave* by Katherine Applegate; and *Muktar and the Camels* by Janet Graber.

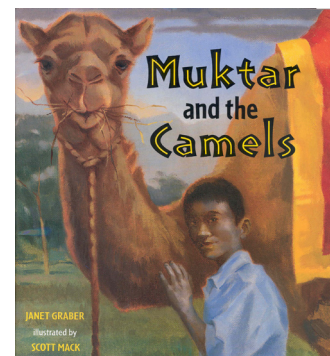
Masha Hamilton, author of *The Camel Bookmobile*, will be visiting Rochester on Monday, February 22. In the near future, more programs will be planned for Rochester Reads. Watch the events calendar for more information.



Junior Title



Adult Title



Picture Book Title

In observance of Veterans' Day, the library will be closed on Wednesday, November 11.