

What are you reading?



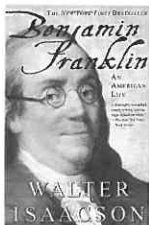
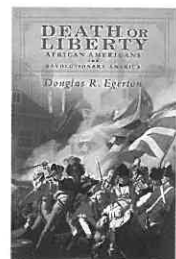
GREGG TRIPOLI,
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
OF THE
ONONDAGA
HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION

What are you reading?

I read a lot of research material for work but am occasionally able to fit a “pleasure” book in here and there. Currently, I’m reading “Decolonizing Education,” though this is also work-related as OHA is developing our new Haudenosaunee Native American facility on Onondaga Lake. It’s by Dr. Marie Batiste, a Native American education specialist. I’m also reading “Death or Liberty – African Americans and Revolutionary America,” by Le Moyne College history professor Doug Egerton. It highlights the issues of an independence declaration that referred to “all men” but, in reality, meant white men only.

What were the last books you read that you would wholeheartedly recommend to a friend?

I would recommend the biography of Benjamin Franklin by Walter Isaacson; a biography of Tennessee Williams, titled “Tom,” by Lyle Leverich; and “Jake’s Place,” by Arnie Rubenstein, a great local story of an immigrant with a dream who raised a wonderful family and built a great global company, United Radio, right here in Syracuse. I would also recommend Dick Case’s new book on local trivia. It is not out yet but will be soon. I’m currently editing it and enjoying it very much.

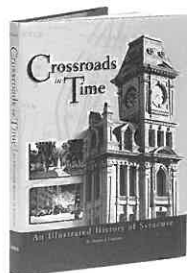
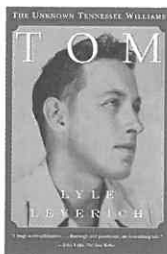


How do you decide what books to read? Word-of-mouth, best-seller lists, something else?

Word-of-mouth, browsing in the bookstores mostly. I generally don’t pay attention to the best-seller lists.

If you were marooned on an island for the rest of your life, what books would you like to have with you?

I would like to have the complete works of Oscar Wilde and Charles Dickens and Jane Austen because almost every line they wrote is worth reading at least two or three times. I would also hope to have my first “self-help” book on how to survive (and thrive) while marooned on an island. And, of course, I would like either “Crossroads In Time — the Illustrated History of Syracuse” or the iconic “Historic Photos of Syracuse,” both by OHA’s curator of history, Dennis Connors. No matter how far I might be from home, they would continue to help me feel connected. ❖



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