

Book Clubs at the Library: Building Community through a Love of Reading (and Cooking!)

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LIBRARIANS MARY BETH SCHWARTZWALDER AND ANDREA SNYDER SHARE SOME OF THEIR FAVORITE BOOK CLUB PICKS

At the Skaneateles Library, our monthly book clubs are about so much more than books—they're about sharing stories, ideas, and connections. Whether you're into page-turning novels, trying out new recipes, or sharing stories with your family, we've got a club for you.

Our Monday Morning Book Club (every third Monday at 10:30 a.m.) and Wednesday Evening Book Club (last Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.) are great for adults who enjoy discussing all genres, from historical fiction to mystery to nonfiction. Join us in person or on Zoom to meet new friends and exchange ideas!

Jim Wooster joined the evening book club when he used to spend summers on the lake years ago. So why does he still attend via Zoom every month even though he now lives in California? "Good reads. Good discussion. Good moderator. Good intellectual stimulation," he says. "I'm very grateful for the opportunity!"



Whether you're looking to shake up your dinner routine or you want to connect with others who share a passion for food, don't miss our Cookbook Club, which meets on the third Wednesday of each month. If you love to read cookbooks but don't always find time to make those mouthwatering recipes, this club is for you! Each month, participants prepare a dish inspired by the month's theme and bring it, along with the recipe, to share in a potluck-style meal.

"After retiring and moving to Skaneateles, I knew that the local library, the heart and soul of any community...would provide a roadmap of activities that might be of interest to me," says Sharon Peyus. "I was not disappointed to learn about the monthly cookbook club. It was perfect for a foodie like me and along the journey, admittedly a few pounds heavier, many friendships formed."

For younger readers (ages 8–12), our Graphic Novel Book Club explores creative storytelling, while families can bond in the Family Read Aloud Book Club, where reading together at home leads to group discussions and activities.

The beauty of book clubs lies in their ability to bring people together. It's not just about the books; it's about connection, conversation, and shared experiences. No matter your age or interest, there's a place for you in our library's book clubs. Let's read, share, and build community—one book (or dish!) at a time!