

Roma Sub Rosa Series

by Steven Saylor

Steven Saylor is an author of intriguing historical detective fiction set in the Rome of Cicero and Caesar. His protagonist Gordianus (aka "The Finder") lives in Rome and, in the early novels, is called on by Cicero to investigate cases that Cicero is about to prosecute. With the back-story of many of the novels taken from Cicero's Letters, Saylor sets a high bar for himself as Gordianus is involved with real characters of history, often *speaking* lines from the writings of Cicero and others. The series includes (in historical order):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Involving</u>
<i>The Seven Wonders</i>	prequel, Antipater of Siden 92 to 90 BC
<i>Raiders of the Nile</i>	prequel, in Alexandria & Egypt ca 88 BC
<i>Wrath of the Furies</i>	prequel, in Ephesus with Mithridates
Roman Blood	Cicero and Sulla in 80 BC [1 st written]
<i>House of the Vestals</i>	9 short stories set in 90 to 73 BC
<i>A Gladiator Dies Only Once</i>	9 short stories set in 77 to 64 BC
<i>Arms of Nemesis</i>	Marcus Crassus & the slave revolt in 72 BC
<i>Catalina's Riddle</i>	Catalina and Cicero in 63 to 62 BC
<i>The Venus Throw</i>	Philosopher Dio, Catullus and Clodia in 56 BC
<i>A Murder on the Appian Way</i>	Clodius and Milo in 52 BC
<i>Rubicon</i>	Caesar marches on Rome in 49 BC
<i>Last Seen in Massilia</i>	Trebonius lays siege to Massila in 49 BC
<i>A Mist of Phrophecies</i>	Cassandra and Caesar in 48 BC
<i>A Judgment of Caesar</i>	Caesar, Pompey and Cleopatra in 48-47 BC
<i>The Triumph of Caesar</i>	Calpurnia, Caesar & his calendar in 46 BC

Gordianus is confronted at every turn with egotistical Romans. In particular, Cicero gives him "a headache":

"I have fallen out and made up with Cicero so many times I am weary of it. Is he an honest man or a crass opportunist? A principled man of the people or an apologist for the rich nobility? If he were clearly one thing or the other, like most men, I would know what to think of him. Instead, he is the most exasperating man in Rome. His conceit and superior attitude, no matter how well deserved, do nothing to endear him to me; neither does his propensity for telling only half the truth, even when his purpose may be honorable. . . ." [from *Judgment of Caesar*]

These stories are exciting, well-founded in history and meticulously set in the period. *Saylor's books are available at KRL.* The original series started with **Roman Blood**. Three prequels to the original series: *The Seven Wonders*, *Raiders of the Nile* and *Wrath of the Furies* were written in 2012, 2014 and 2015, respectively.

So, go back in time and enter Gordianus' world of pre-Empire Rome . . .

A "Golden Oldie" 2012 Essay by Ray Pardo [updated]

Peace on Earth ... Good Will towards Mankind

INSPIRE Winter Issue Available Now at Your Library

The new issue of KRL **Inspire** is now available & includes :

Adult Programs: including genealogy, films, computers,

Teens Programs: Hip Hop, Art Lab, STEM, Gaming, Writing

Kids Programs: School Support, Legos, STEM, Games and more

Introduction to Garth Stein's **A Sudden Light**, the One Book-One Community selection for 2017;

And an interview with author Garth Stein

... and includes the library and Bookmobile schedules

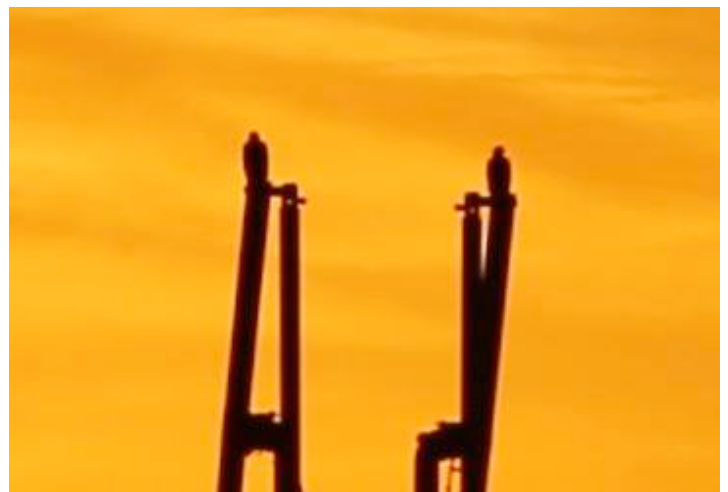
Friends of Manchester Library Elect New Officers for 2017

President:	Ralph Nelson
Vice-President:	Cherm Mercer-Gilbert
Secretary:	Susan Seykota-Smith
Treasurer:	Theresa McBride
Director:	Eric Cisney
Returning Directors:	Bill Lounsbery John Winslow

Thank you to retiring Secretary Tonya Rothe and retiring Treasurer Carol Campbell for their years of tireless service.

Comedy Night Net Results

Held at McCormick Woods, and organized jointly with the Friends of Port Orchard Library, this event, including tickets sold, table raffles and books sold, netted the Friends of Manchester Library **\$3,182 !!**



Manchester's Eagles watch the sunrise !!

Thank you to Noelle Morris for keeping "an eye" on the eagles