

Barbara Tuchman

Barbara Wertheim Tuchman twice was awarded the Pulitzer Prize: first for *The Guns of August* (1963), then for *Stilwell and the American Experience in China, 1911-45* (1971). *Guns* describes the dramatic events that set the stage for - and the first month of - the Great War. *Stilwell* depicts America's relationship with China in the first half of the Twentieth Century. The book contains an insightful biography of 'Vinegar Joe' Stilwell, the cantankerous but level-headed four-star general who - more than any other American - influenced that relationship.

When *Guns* was first published, the press referred to Tuchman as a 50-year-old housewife married to a prominent New York physician. The reality, of course, was much more. Born in 1912, Barbara Wertheim was the daughter of Maurice Wertheim, a New York City banking executive, and the niece of Henry Morgenthau, Jr., FDR's Treasury Secretary. After attending Manhattan's Walden School, Barbara entered Radcliffe College where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1933. She worked in Tokyo for a time as a research assistant on the Japanese Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations, then returned to the States via the Trans-Siberian Railway, Moscow, and Paris. In 1937 *Nation* magazine tasked Barbara to report on the Spanish Civil War. After the conflict, she traveled throughout Europe for a year before returning home. In 1940 she married Lester R. Tuchman, a distinguished internist, and a professor of clinical medicine. Together, they raised three daughters. In 1943, the Army's Medical Corps sent Lester overseas, while Barbara remained in the States working for the Office of War Information. When World War II ended, she conducted extensive research for *Bible and Sword: England and Palestine from the Bronze Age to Balfour*. After the book's publication in 1956, Tuchman devoted herself exclusively to historical investigations - and never looked back.

Tuchman realized that in order to write history with any degree of authenticity one must truly appreciate what people were going through at the time. Using matchless prose - and churning out a best seller about every four years - she wrote compact, artistic chronicles that portray past events with unerring accuracy. In 1980 she won the National Book Award in History with *A Distant Mirror*. That same year the National Endowment for the Humanities selected Tuchman to be its Jefferson Lecturer - our government's highest honor for achievement in literature. Tuchman received numerous honorary degrees in her lifetime, from such prestigious institutions as Harvard, Yale, and Smith College. She was a trustee at Radcliffe, and a guest lecturer at Harvard, the University of California, and the Naval War College.

Barbara Tuchman died at Greenwich, CT in 1989.

Essay by Bill Lounsbury

KRL has many books by Barbara Tuchman.

Guided Beach Walk: Manchester State Park

Tuesday, July 25th 12:00 - 2:00 pm Kids of all Ages
Call 871-3921 or register online

Harbor WildWatch naturalists and volunteers will lead a guided beach walk at Manchester State Park. Meet at the Manchester State Park beach and look for the blue canopy on the beach and/or volunteers and naturalists dressed in blue shirts and hats. **SPECIAL EVENT**

Puppets Please ! children pre-K to 2nd grade

Tuesday August 15th 10:30 am

... an interactive arena-style show. Colorful, handcrafted marionettes sing, dance, roller skate and more.

Movie Matinee: Moana

Thursday August 17th 3 pm

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Manchester Library is 70 Years Old this Year

You Are All Invited to the Birthday Party

Wednesday, July 26th, 3 pm to 6 pm

Refreshments will be Served !

Mary J. Sanford, who owned the local Manchester Shopping Mart and was a member of the county's rural library board, donated a corner of her business to be the library, which opened July 1, 1947. In 1953 the library moved temporarily into the Manchester Improvement Club building, and the following year into a 16-foot by 24-foot modular building on Port of Manchester property.

In 1976 the Friends of the Manchester Library became a registered nonprofit organization, sought a loan to build a permanent library building, and with a grant from Kitsap Regional Library, donations, and many hours of volunteer construction, the building was completed in 1980.

We hope to have some attendees who remember the first library!!

* * * **IMPORTANT ALERT** * * * *

Fred Meyer sets aside \$\$ for charitable donations each quarter; the amount that goes to each charity is determined through your **rewards card link** to the charity you choose.

ALL THOSE LINKS EXPIRED late Spring 2017

Please re-register your support for us!

To sign up or re-register for the Fred Meyer program:

**Get a Fred Meyer Rewards Card (no cost)

**Sign up your rewards card on their web site:

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

**Update your reward card profile to support the

Friends of the Manchester Library (Group # 93267)

