



BRANCHING OUT BEYOND

Winter 2018-19

PATRON PREVIEW, Part 2 | Bob and Arleen Stahl

Long time patrons Bob and Arleen Stahl recently shared some of their favorite authors and books as part of an interview for the STPLD 2018 winter newsletter feature. The Stahls are both avid readers and visit the library regularly. In addition, Bob has been a library trustee for over 10 years. (Part 1 of the interview appeared in the print edition.)

Leading the list of Bob's favorites is **CODE GIRLS: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE AMERICAN WOMEN CODE BREAKERS OF WORLD WAR II** by Liza Mundy. Bob says he found this non-fiction read captivating in part because he discovered that thousands of young women were recruited from across the US from all walks of life to be part of this elite security project. After the war, however, they were just expected to return to civilian life like nothing happened. Their story and their work was simply amazing.

Another history book that impressed both him and Arleen was **THE GREAT INFLUENZA: THE EPIC STORY OF THE 1918 PANDEMIC** by John M. Barry.

"I got my first flu shot in my life because of that book!" Bob said.

Other top authors on Bob's list include John Grisham, David Baldacci and Lee Childs.

Arleen's favorite writers include Nora Roberts, Mary Higgins Clark, Nicholas Sparks and Barbara Taylor Bradford. However, she is also a fan of Wowbrary, which provides weekly updates on what's new at STPLD, and uses that to do a lot of book ordering.

"I love, love, love Wowbrary. I get to know what's coming out new," Arleen said, "and then I request it!"

"I second that," Bob added. "I don't want to buy a book. We're trying to declutter. I want to read it and bring it back. This is a small library, but they can get you any book from across the state of Illinois and beyond. The best bang for your tax dollar is your public library, and this is a good one!"

In case you were wondering...Wowbrary posts appear on Wednesdays on STPLD's Facebook page, and patrons can sign up for the weekly newsletter as well.

In addition, in December STPLD is launching Automatically Yours where patrons can select their favorite authors from a list of 200 and STPLD will automatically place holds on their new releases for you! Watch for details at the Circulation desk along with our website and Facebook page.