

# Authors, Ahoy!

The Brazilian Court Hotel Condominium announced its second annual series of book and author breakfasts for the 2005-2006 season. Part-time Palm Beach resident, **Parker Ladd**, former host of A & E's "Open Book" serves as the moderator/interviewer. The breakfasts, held in The Ballroom at Cafe Boulud at The Brazilian Court, begin at 8:45 a.m. and conclude by 10:15 a.m.

The 2005-2006 Series program begins on Friday, December 23, 2005 with authors **Peggy Drexler** and **Michael Gross**. Dr. Drexler is a research psychologist whose book, *Raising Boys Without Men: How Maverick Moms Are Creating the Next Generation of Exceptional Men* is based on a groundbreaking study that compared boys from female-headed households with boys from traditional mom-and-dad families.

Considered one of America's most provocative journalists and nonfiction authors, Gross, a native New Yorker, is the author of ten books. His latest, *740 Park Avenue*, Gross lays out an epic tale of American capitalism and 20th century New York society by providing a fascinating glimpse inside the walls of New York's most exclusive residential building, inhabited by some of the most powerful old-money families—Vanderbilt, Rockefeller, Bouvier, Chrysler, Houghton and Harkness—and by today's new-moneyed elite: Bronfman, Perelman, Kravis, Steinberg, Koch and Schwarzman.



Michael Gross

The

next breakfast, on January 27, 2006, features **Candace Bushnell** and **Edward P. Jones**. Bushnell, the real-life alter ego of *Sex and the City's* Carrie Bradshaw, has been a New York night life regular since the days of Studio 54. Her new novel, *Lipstick Jungle*, is the triumphant story of three successful New York women in their early 40s who know exactly what they want: love, passion, power and a lot of money.

*The Known World*, Jones's Pulitzer Prize-winning debut novel, is a luminously written work that ranges seamlessly between the past, future and present, weaving together the lives of freed and enslaved blacks, whites, and Indians. The book provides a deeper understanding of the enduring, multidimensional world created by the institution of slavery.

Authors **Catherine Crier** and **David Margolick** share the bill on February 3, 2006. Crier is a multi award-winning journalist, the youngest state judge to ever be elected in Texas, one of Court TV's team of anchors and among television's most popular legal analysts. *A Deadly Game: The Untold Story of the Scott Peterson Investigation*, tells the story of the case Crier has covered ever since Laci Peterson disappeared on December 24, 2002, and Crier was among the first to question the behavior of Laci's husband, Scott Peterson. Through her journalistic sources, Crier accessed a revealing body of previously unseen reports, transcripts and photographic evidence. Drawing on these resources and extensive interviews with key witnesses and lead investigators, Crier provides a highly detailed look at the most notorious murder case since O. J. Simpson.

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, **Jennet Conant** and **Steven Gaines** appear together. Author and former journalist Conant has written for *Vanity Fair*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, *Newsweek*, and *The New York Times*. In her new book, *109 East Palace: Robert Oppenheimer and the Secret City of Los Alamos*, Conant focuses on

the 27 months when the nation's top physicists gathered in a remote New Mexico outpost to create the first nuclear weapon. The story takes place almost entirely within the compound now referred to as Los Alamos. Oppenheimer, the 'father of the atomic bomb' is a dominant figure throughout the book, but the real protagonist is his assistant, **Dorothy McKibbin**, a widow who cared for the physicists in some of the harshest working conditions known to modern science.



Peggy Drexler

Gaines is the bestselling author of *Obsession*, the biography of Calvin Klein, and *Simply Halston*. His latest book, *The Sky's the Limit: Passion and Property in Manhattan*, offers an inside look at the high-stakes world of Manhattan residential real estate. From the most expensive condominiums and co-ops, to the offices of its most powerful real estate brokers, he reveals the outlandish displays of ego, bad behavior, and status hunger that surface when the best addresses are on the line, and tells of the apartment hunting and renovating adventures of many celebrities.

**Liz Smith** and **Roger Rosenblatt** appear on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Texas-born Smith, aka "the Grand Dame of Dish," is the *New York Post's* Emmy-award winning, internationally read gossip columnist. Her book, *Dishing: Great Dish and Dishes from America's Most Beloved Gossip Columnist*, is filled with recipes and tasty tales of the celebrities she has faced across dinner tables at her favorite restaurants around the world—all recorded with the ease and signature style that marks Smith as a superb storyteller.



Roger Rosenblatt

Often called America's favorite essayist, Roger Rosenblatt winner of two George Polk awards, a Peabody and an Emmy, appears on PBS and the "MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour." One of the most amusing and astute social critics, journalists, professors and lecturers of our time and the author of 11 books, Rosenblatt's latest work is his first novel. *Lapham Rising* is described as "a modern day version of William Dean Howells's *The Rise of Silas Lapham*." Rosenblatt says his version is a satire about a Trump-like tycoon in the Hamptons.

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, **Frank McCourt**, master of the memoir, is the featured author. Second author TBA. Winner of a Pulitzer, a National Book Critics Circle Award and a host of other honors, McCourt's first book, *Angela's Ashes*, about his hardscrabble childhood in Ireland was followed by "Tis," which chronicled his coming of age on the docks of 1950s New York, as an American GI in Germany and as a student working his way through New York University. McCourt's third and latest book, *Teacher Man*, traces the 30-year arc of his career as an English teacher, and that during his years in New York schools, he suggests he learned as much, perhaps more, from his students than they did from him.

The series concludes on April 7<sup>th</sup> with **Paige Rense**, second author TBA. Rense has been the editor of *Architectural Digest* for more than 30 years and is the author of several books on interior design. Among *Architectural Digest's* most popular articles is the series that features the homes of Hollywood movie stars and directors. "Hollywood at Home," Rense's latest book, features 25 of the best of those articles, offering an intimate look at some of cinema's most fascinating personalities, as reflected in their lavish, inventively designed, and, at times, outrageously opulent homes. Picture spreads are accompanied by well-researched, anecdotal-rich essays.

Reservations are required to the Author Breakfasts. Ticket price is \$85 per person per breakfast and includes complimentary valet parking and a copy of one of the featured books. For reservations and information call Lina Sotomayor at (561) 366-4306.



Edward P. Jones