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**Concord Library's *Thursday Author Series* Ponders the Question:  
"Is there value in your old and rare books?"**

CONCORD, MA      The Concord Free Public Library is pleased to welcome Kenneth Gloss, proprietor of the nationally known Brattle Book Shop on Thursday, December 1, 2011 as part of the Library's *Thursday Author Series*. In addition to his prepared lecture on the value of old books, Gloss will offer a free verbal assessment of books brought to the lecture.

"New England homes are treasure-troves for old and rare books that have increased in value over the years," says Gloss. Among the items he will present as part of his lecture are examples of exceptional items from the Brattle Book Shop's private collection, including a 1912 World Series scorecard, examples of old LIFE Magazines and a rare sales brochure for the *Titanic*.

The Brattle Book Shop is one of America's oldest and largest antiquarian bookstores and 2011 marks the 62<sup>nd</sup> year of continuous Gloss family ownership. Following the death of his father, George Gloss, a well-known figure both in Boston and in national antiquarian circles, Kenneth Gloss who had worked in the store since childhood became its sole proprietor. He chose to pursue a career in the book business rather than complete a doctorate in chemistry. "I found that books were in my blood and that I would never really be happy if I abandoned the business," says Gloss of his life changing decision.

Kenneth Gloss is a member and past president of the New England Antiquarian Booksellers Association, the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America, the Bostonian Society and the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Antiquarian Booksellers. He serves as a member of the advisory board of the *USS Constitution* Museum and was a member of the advisory committee of the Boston Public Library. He is a recipient of The Historic Neighborhoods Foundation award for making a definitive contribution to the design and social heritage of Boston and has been honored by the Brookline Preservation Commission for his donation of the original plans of the famous Larz Anderson estate.

The Brattle Book Shop is also proud to have been a contributor to the WGBH Annual Auction each and every year that the station has held its fund drive. Gloss may be seen on **PBS' *Antiques***

**Roadshow** from time to time and has been a popular guest on **WBZ Radio** as well as other radio, TV and cable stations.

The Friends of the Concord Free Public Library sponsor the *Thursday Authors Series* from September through June. Programs are held in the second floor Periodical Room of the Main Library and are free and open to all. Following each presentation, books are typically available for purchase and audience members are encouraged to continue their conversations with the authors.

Upcoming programs include (all at 7:30 pm):

Thursday, January 19, 2012 – Book talk by Concordian Polly Peterson, ***Stirring the Nation's Heart: 18 Stories of Prophetic Unitarians & Universalists of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century***

Thursday, February 9, 2012 – Boston College professor and Concordian Richard Cobb-Stevens, ***James & Husserl: The Foundation of Meaning***

Thursday, March 1, 2012 – Book talk by Concordian Jan Benvenuti, ***Don't Give Up on Me: Supporting Aging Parents Successfully***

For more information, please call the Library at (978) 318-3300 or visit [www.concordlibrary.org](http://www.concordlibrary.org).

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