

Lake Eustis Report  
Copy for 9/17/09

**Institute Book Club to Discuss *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen**  
Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at Noon

Jacob Jankowski, ninety or ninety-three years old (he can't remember which), confronts a newcomer to his nursing home dining table when the newcomer (a lawyer) asserts that as a boy he carried water for circus elephants. Jacob says, "Carried water for elephants indeed. Do you have any idea how much an elephant drinks?"

*Water for Elephants* is a reminiscence of a wise old man and the coming of age tale of a twenty-three years old "almost" veterinarian. Both stories work seamlessly together. During the Great Depression, a young Jacob Jankowski jumps a train only to discover he has propelled himself into the midst of a seedy circus, the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth. The circus needs a vet and Jacob needs a home and a job. And, as "the oldest male virgin on the face of the earth", young Jacob also needs a love interest, which he finds in the beautiful Marlena.

Book reviews of *Water for Elephants* have been positive with reservations. At its best, it is a wonderful history of a circus struggling to hold on in the midst of the Depression. It is also a satisfying romance.

Come join the Book Club on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at noon, 135 N. Grove Street, Eustis and share your impressions of a book many are talking about. Admission is free and bringing a bag lunch is suggested. For more information, go online to: [www.lakeeustisinstitute.org](http://www.lakeeustisinstitute.org) and click on "Seminars & Classes", or call: 352.357.3995.

**Sign-up Now for Tibetan Buddhist Meditation**  
Course Begins October 3rd at 9:00 AM

Mark Winwood will lead people through the user-friendly meditation practices of the Tibetan Buddhists. Mark has a life-long interest in Buddhism and has spent years learning and traveling among Buddhist in India. Now a teacher, Mark brings his insights to Eustis through the Institute.

This series is open to those who practice meditation, those who tried it and did not like it, and those who are curious. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a pillow or mat. Accommodations will be made for any disability. Go online to: [www.lakeeustisinstitute.org](http://www.lakeeustisinstitute.org), or call" 352.357.3995 for more information.

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**PROOF-READER NEEDED**

Are you a stickler for correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar? Are you comfortable with the computer and internet? Are you available for a quick turn around? The Institute can use your expertise (aha, you noticed we need some help). We are looking for a qualified volunteer who can proof-read quickly and accurately. If you are interested, call Virginia Barker at: 352.357.3995.