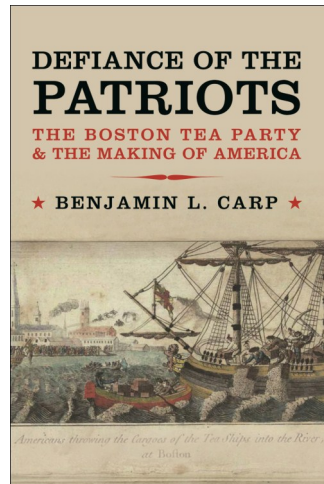




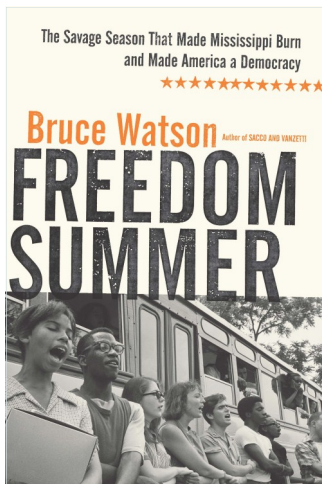
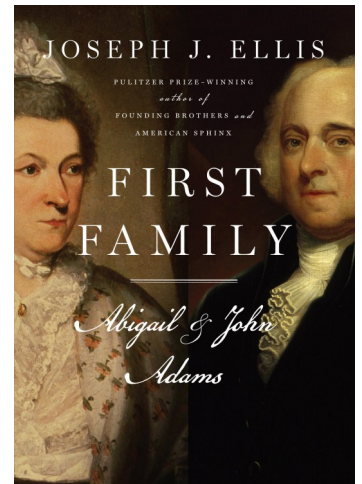
Must-Read Nonfiction 2011

from the Massachusetts Book Awards

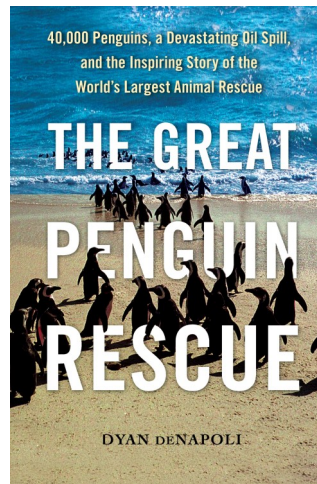
What if America's founding fathers weren't so altruistic but, instead, simply business men wanting to turn a buck? *Defiance of the Patriots* (Yale UP), by Benjamin Carp, poses this question and others as it examines the relevant issues for both the English and the Colonists in the lead-up to the Boston Tea Party and the onset of the Revolutionary War.



In Joseph Ellis's *First Family* (Knopf), an historical and romantic narrative of a marriage and a family, Abigail Adams is not only the mother who raises John Adam's children, but also the wife who longs for her husband, and the woman who truly supports from afar a brilliant man who is devoted to the founding of the American nation

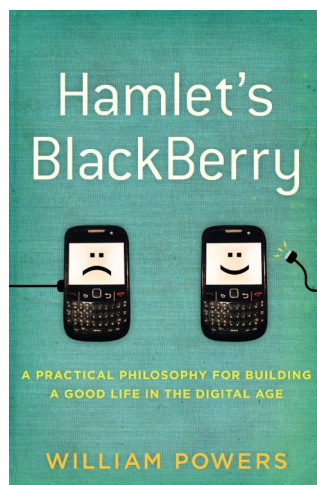


Bruce Watson's *Freedom Summer* (Viking/Penguin) is a fresh and powerful look at the summer of 1964, when civil rights workers flooded the South to help African Americans exercise their right to suffrage. This book gives us a rich and comprehensive story, as told by those volunteers who lived through this most harrowing and critical time for race relations in our country.

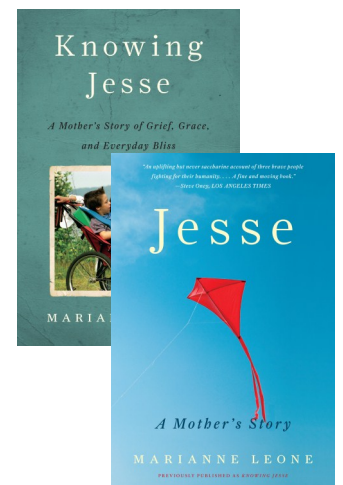


In *The Great Penguin Rescue* (Free Press), author Dyan deNapoli chronicles the amazing story of 75,000 dedicated volunteers who not only rescue 19,000 oiled penguins but who also save 20,000 more from sharing a similar fate after a tragic oil spill off the coast of Africa.

Technology: does it help us or does it "destroy civilization"? This is the question at the center of *Hamlet's BlackBerry* (Harper) by William Powers, an engaging examination of the way that advances from the Gutenberg press to present-day computers have benefited us and created resistances in those who become convinced that life as they know it is over.

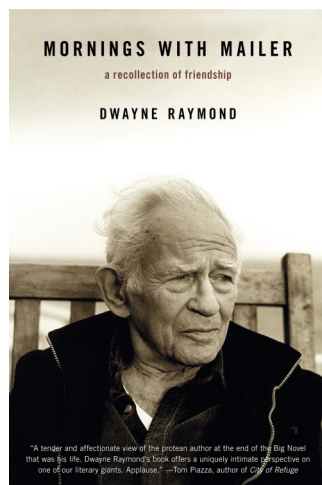


Throughout the joys, trials and, ultimately, grief of parenthood, this poignant memoir by Marianne Leone, originally published as *Knowing Jesse* and reprinted as *Jesse: A Mother's Story* (Simon and Schuster), describes the challenges faced by a family raising an honor-roll student trapped by Cerebral Palsy in a quadriplegic body.

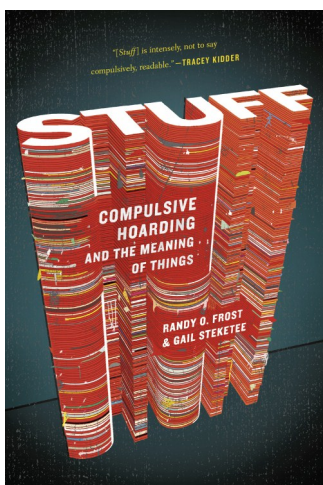
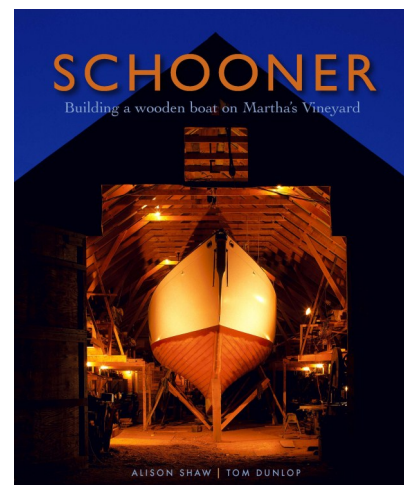


The Massachusetts Book Awards are a program of the Massachusetts Center for the Book, the Commonwealth Affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, on the web at www.massbook.org.

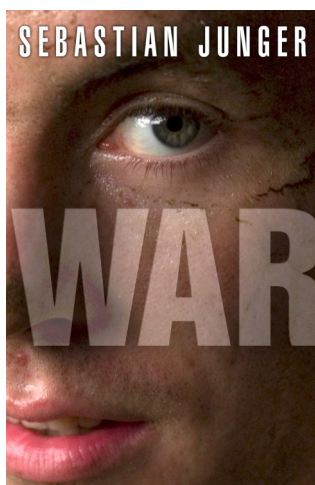
In *Mornings with Mailer* (Perennial), Dwayne Raymond communicates a very intimate and loving view of a much-read author, inviting us to share in some tender moments at the end of the life of a man of great genius and intellect who made Provincetown his home, the maddeningly arrogant, obstinate and admirable Norman Mailer.



Follow the creation of the *Rebecca*, a two-masted schooner and the largest boat to be built on Martha's Vineyard in decades. In text by Tom Dunlop and photos by Alison Shaw, *Schooner* (Vineyard Stories) introduces us to a small Massachusetts shipyard which builds boats in the traditional way.

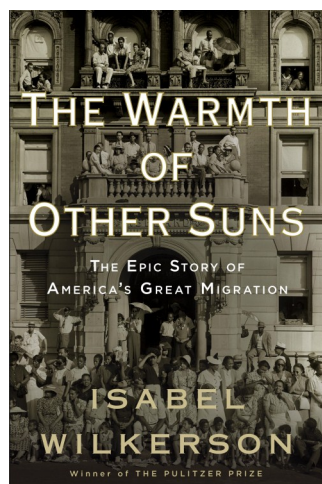


Stuff (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), by Randy Frost and Gail Steketee, is a truthful and fascinating account of the mental illness that affects "hoarders," those unfortunate souls who lose their health, their families, their marriages and their lives to an obsession with collecting and storing things, no matter what their value and no matter what the cost to quality of life.

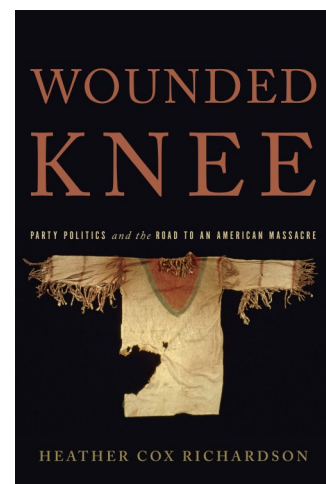


Sebastian Junger's *War* (Twelve) is a powerful first-hand account of modern warfare that looks at the nature of war in overview and in particular, detailing the physical conditions of conflict and their effect on the soldiers, and paying special attention to the emotional bonds formed between soldiers and throughout a unit.

An epic narrative of the Great Migration, the journey of African Americans from the Jim Crow South to U.S. cities in the North and West in the early half of the twentieth century, *The Warmth of Other Suns* (Random House), by Isabel Wilkerson, presents three distinct stories interwoven with clear and compelling contextual background.



Wounded Knee (Basic Books), by Heather Cox Richardson, is a unique look at the massacre of nearly 300 Sioux, who were killed while surrendering to the United States Army in 1890, assessing the politics of the event and positing a perfect storm of party politics, public paranoia and election-year posturing with tragic results



Beginning in May you can access an online discussion of the books from the Massachusetts Center for the Book Facebook page. Here's a google-shortened version of the page URL: <http://goo.gl/nnRLS>. Be sure to "like" the page so you can stay tuned as we shall announce the award winner in nonfiction there at summer's end.

Nonfiction Judges: Charlotte Canelli, Morrill Memorial Library, Norwood; Nina Hunt, Bellingham Public Library; Jason Wargo, Worcester Public Library