



# WHAT IS PAST IS PROLOGUE

The Prologue Society Newsletter

December 3, 2015

## FROM THE CHAIR

**Karl Rove** outdid himself on Monday of this week! Who knew that he is an excellent historian? Rove covered most of his book on William McKinley's defeat of William Jennings Bryan in the 1896 presidential election in about 35 minutes without a single note yet with abundant detail.

**Next Luncheon:** Sean McMeekin will be with us on **Thursday, December 10 (next week)** to tell us about his book on the final days of the Ottoman Empire and how its collapse shaped the Middle East today. This is one you won't want to miss!

**Great news:** The Prologue Society recently received an official letter from the IRS approving our application to become a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, thanks to the pro bono efforts of attorney Charles Sacher. The change is retroactive to September 8, 2015. With this designation, we (Prologue) will also be able to stop paying sales tax for luncheons and books, which will make a big difference to our finances.

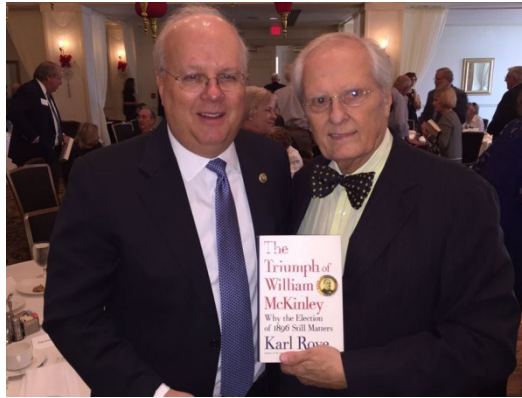
**Announcement about old books:** If you're like Betty and me, you might have a pretty good-sized stack of Prologue (or maybe Brickell Avenue Literary Society) books from years past. Some we want to keep, but we have a box or two of others that we have either read or don't think we will read. **On December 10, The Education Fund** will pick up any books brought to Riviera by our members, and they will give them to Miami-Dade County Public School teachers. This is a great way to clean off bookshelves and clean out closets before the holidays swamp us—so bring your old Prologue books next Thursday. (Needless to say, we aren't looking for used John LeCarré or Agatha Christi paperbacks, nor for books not acquired via Prologue, BALS, or other similar book groups.)

**The Spring Season lineup** is almost ready. We'll be sending out the details soon. We know now that Arva Moore Parks will tell us about her new biography of George Merrick, the founder of Coral Gables, on **Wednesday, January 20**, and that Fergus Bordewich will be with us on **Wednesday, February 24**—so put those dates on your calendars now.

I hope to see you all at the luncheon for Sean McMeekin next Thursday—but in any case, in behalf of the Board I want to wish you all happy holidays.

Dabney (Bud) Park

## RECENT LUNCHEONS



Karl Rove and Bud Park

## UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

### SAVE THE DATES

#### **January 20, 2016**

Arva Moore Parks will be with us for a second time this season, presenting her new book *George Merrick, Son of the South Wind*.

#### **February 24, 2016**

Fergus Bordewich is scheduled to be our February author -- his book is titled *The First Congress: How James Madison, George Washington, and a Group of Extraordinary Men Invented the Government*.

### **THE REMAINDER OF OUR SPRING SCHEDULE WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY**

*Not committing to a full season's schedule too early allows Cristina Nosti, board member and our Books & Books liaison, the ability to add to our spring season authors with new releases and newly-scheduled tours.*

### **ALL LUNCHEONS**

are held in the Riviera Country Club Ballroom  
1155 Blue Road, Coral Gables  
12 Noon to 2:00 pm  
Doors open at 11:30 am

For membership and luncheon information, please visit us online at [www.theprologuesociety.org](http://www.theprologuesociety.org), email us at [theprologuesociety@gmail.com](mailto:theprologuesociety@gmail.com) or phone us at 305-323-1154.