

April 19th Speakers:

From Barnes & Noble, **Amber Stevens** and **Giuseppe Bianchin***.

*(“ch” in Italian is pronounced like “k” in English, think of “Pinocchio”)

TOPIC: Differences between the Classic Nook and the Kindle, and between the new Nook Color and the iPad.

Amber Stevens

She is an avid book reader, and has been since the first Sesame Street book was handed to her as a young child.

She has worked for Barnes & Noble, Inc. for a total of twelve years. Her career started with a part-time job at B. Dalton Bookseller while she was in college. She fell in love with the retail book world so much, that after graduating from University of Michigan - Flint with a degree in Medical Technology, she decided to make a career out of selling books.

She will read almost any type of fiction, with an occasional biography thrown in. Her favorite novel is “Gone With The Wind” by Margaret Mitchell.

Her favorite hobbies are reading, wine tasting and spending time with her best friend who lives in San Francisco.

Giuseppe Bianchin

He was born and raised in Venice, Italy. At the age of 18 he moved to Bologna, Italy, where he graduated in 2004 in Science of Communications.

He has always been passionate about writing and has also won several writing awards. In addition, he has always written as a journalist for journals and newspapers of all the schools he has attended.

As a student he worked part time in a bookstore/comic shop, and also as an interpreter at the showroom center of Bologna.

In 2006 he became the Editor in chief of FreeLife Magazine, a web based magazine edited in English and published by Maggioli Editore, the 3rd largest publisher in Italy.

In 2009 he moved to the USA, to marry his fiance', an American citizen. In early 2010 he became the Digital Lead at Barnes and Noble in Rochester Hills, blending his passion for books with his teaching skills and my understanding of new technologies.

His most favorite hobby is listening and playing music. He has been a drummer for over 17 years and has played with bands in many venues across Italy and Europe. As of today he has recorded 5 albums.