

## BOOK CLUB MEETING --- TOM BERGIN'S

Tom Bergin's is our Saturday, 2:00 p.m. Book Club meeting location. Please RSVP for the January 9th meeting to Linda Quinn by January 2, 2009.

## BOOK CLUB BEAT

For the January Book Club meeting we will be reading two selections:

[Irving Thalberg: Boy Wonder to Producer Prince](#) (Mark A. Vieira)

Hollywood in the 1920s sparkled with talent, confidence, and opportunity. Enter Irving Thalberg of Brooklyn, who survived childhood illness to run Universal Pictures at twenty; co-found Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer at twenty-four; and make stars of Lon Chaney, Norma Shearer, Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, Clark Gable, and Jean Harlow. Known as Hollywood's "Boy Wonder," Thalberg created classics such as Ben-Hur, Tarzan the Ape Man, Grand Hotel, Freaks, Mutiny on the Bounty, and The Good Earth, but died tragically at thirty-seven. His place in the pantheon should have been assured, yet his films were not reissued for thirty years, spurring critics to question his legend and diminish his achievements. In this definitive biography, illustrated with rare photographs, Mark A. Vieira sets the record straight, using unpublished production files, financial records, and correspondence to confirm the genius of Thalberg's methods. In addition, this is the first Thalberg biography to utilize both his recorded conversations and the unpublished memoirs of his wife, Norma Shearer. Irving Thalberg is a compelling narrative of power and idealism, revealing for the first time the human being behind the legend.

[The Last Tycoon](#) (F. Scott Fitzgerald)

F. Scott Fitzgerald's final novel, left uncompleted because of the author's death, tells the story of Monroe Stahr, a hotshot Hollywood producer facing his mortality and longing for a second chance at love.

## GETTING THE WORD OUT

Sent to the Women's National Book Association/LA ([WNBA/LA](#))  
(Sharing our Book Club) - 2009

We are a Book Club with no name, but have been meeting on a bi-monthly basis since 2001. We're a small core group of six that grows to eight or ten members at times, depending upon reading selections and members' frequent travels. Our meeting place of choice is Tom Bergin's a lively Irish Pub/Café in the style of Oscar Wilde and James Joyce's Dublin haunts, located in Los Angeles, CA. It's hard to beat discussions over tasty Irish fare and a Guinness. Our members share a common passion for reading a fiction and non-fiction selection for each of our meetings that are selected from biography, classics, mystery, and modern works (fiction/non-fiction). We also add film to the mix when related to our reading choices. Live in L.A. and looking for a great Book Club? We welcome new members. Contact Linda ([l.m.quinn@writingame.com](mailto:l.m.quinn@writingame.com)) for details. WNBA members may be joining us sometime in 2010.