



## Boston's North End January 15, 1919

"The sight that greeted the first of the rescuers on the scene is almost indescribable in words. Molasses, waist deep, covered the street and swirled and bubbled about the wreckage. Here and there struggled a form – whether it was animal or human being impossible to tell. Only an upheaval, a thrashing about in the sticky mass, showed where any life was...Horses died like so many flies on sticky fly paper. The more they struggled, the deeper in the mess they were ensnared. Human beings – men and women – suffered likewise."

—*Boston Post*

## Book Discussions

**Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 12:00 PM**

Ipswich Historical Society  
Brown Bag Discussion

**Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**

Betsy Johnson Book Group  
Members Only

**Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM**

Collins Room, Ipswich Library  
Public Book Discussion

**Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2:30 PM**

Sisters of Notre Dame  
Members Only

**Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 7:30 PM**

Cape Ann Literary Society  
Members Only

**Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 8:00 AM**

Volunteers Breakfast  
Invited Guests Only

**Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2:10 PM**

Ipswich High School  
H.S. Students Book Discussion

**Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**

Rogers Room, Ipswich Public Library  
Public Book Discussion

**Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**

East End Bookies  
Members Only

IPSWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY  
25 North Main Street  
Ipswich, MA 01938

[www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library](http://www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library)



## Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919

*By Stephen Puleo*

IPSWICH READS  
One book!

APRIL 2010

## About the Author...

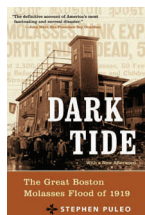


Steve Puleo

Mr. Stephen Puleo, author, historian, award-winning newspaper reporter and communications professional, has made more than 225 public appearances since *Dark Tide* was published in 2003. His other books include *The Boston Italians* and *Due to Enemy Action: The True World War II Story of the USS Eagle*. His latest book, *A City So Grand: The Rise of an American Metropolis, Boston 1850-1900*, will be released in April. Puleo holds a master's degree in history from UMass-Boston, and teaches the subject at Suffolk University. He lives south of Boston with his wife, Kate. To learn more about the author visit [www.stephenpuleo.com](http://www.stephenpuleo.com)

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*Dark Tide* was selected by the Boston Authors Club as a finalist for its prestigious Julia Ward Howe Award for literary merit. The Associated Press included *Dark Tide* in its "round-up" selection of books to read during the fall of 2003, a recommendation that appeared in more than 80 newspapers nationwide. Communities have voted to read *Dark Tide* as part of town-wide reading programs, and the book has been selected for reading and discussion by scores of book clubs.



## LIBRARY EVENTS

**April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** in the Collins Meeting Room: Noted author Anthony Sammarco will present an illustrated lecture titled: **Molasses: From the Slave Trade to the Great Flood**. This lecture is free and open to the public.

**April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** in the Collins Meeting Room: Author Stephen Puleo will lecture about his book, *Dark Tide: The Great Molasses Flood of 1919*. Copies of *Dark Tide*, which Mr. Puleo will autograph, will be available for purchase. This lecture is free and open to the public.

**April 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM** in the Collins Meeting Room: **Molasses Cookie Bake Off** with children's activities. The 'Best Cookie' award will be given out, and children (and adults) will sample all entries (with milk, of course). Children's Librarian Marilyn Pauley will read a special tale of a boy who floated away on a flood of molasses. Children will also be invited to participate in a craft project. This program is limited to children 5-8 years of age and their guardians. Please sign up for this event in the Children's Room or by calling 978.356.6648.

**April 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM** at North Station in Boston: Author Stephen Puleo will conduct a **Tour of the North End**, site of the great molasses flood tragedy. Participants will meet at North Station to begin this 90-minute walking tour. Please sign up for this tour at the library.

Note: The 9:00 AM train from Ipswich arrives at North Station at 9:49 AM.

### STATISTICS OF THE GREAT MOLASSES FLOOD

Height of the tank:	50 feet
Quantity of spilled molasses:	2,320,000 gallons weighing 26,000,000 pounds
Height of molasses wave:	15 feet
Speed of molasses wave:	35 mph
Air temperature on 1/15/1919:	46 degrees
People killed:	21
People injured:	150
Property damage:	Nearly \$100,000,000 (in today's dollars)
Length of time for hearings:	5 ½ years
Compensation paid to victims:	\$1,000,000

