



# Among Friends

Morro Bay Friends of the Library newsletter

Fall 2009

Volume 28, Edition 4

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*To stimulate public support of the Morro Bay Branch of the San Luis Obispo County Library by fostering and establishing closer relations between the library and the citizens and organizations of Morro Bay, by focusing public attention on library services, facilities and needs and by soliciting gifts, endowments and bequests to provide financial aid for adequate facilities and needs.*

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## Your Voice and Vote Do Matter!

**A**s members of the Friends you have a voice in what happens within the Friends' organization. No better time is this voice important than when you vote for a new Board of Directors. Your next chance to do this will be **Friday, November 20 beginning promptly at 11:30 a.m.** at the Morro Bay Library Program Room. At this, the annual Membership/Elections Meeting, you will not only vote for officers, but you will have the opportunity to learn about what your Board has accomplished this past year on behalf of our Morro Bay Library.

Our bylaws, available online at: [www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org/volunteer/](http://www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org/volunteer/) in the Volunteer Handbook, require that we have a quorum present in order to elect next year's Board of Directors to continue the business of the Friends. If you have never come to a meeting before, or if it has been a while since you have attended one, we really want you to come to this one!

Still not sure you can find time in your schedule? Well, let me give you at least 3 reasons why you want to attend:

- 1) It only takes one person to make a difference – and that person could be you!
- 2) You will be the first to hear some very exciting announcements.
- 3) We are hosting a **free continental lunch** and wonderful program directly following our short meeting. (*First come, First serve!*)

Can we count on your participation?

–Karen Robert, President



**Among Friends** is the quarterly newsletter for the Morro Bay Friends of the Library. It is distributed to all members. Circulation is approximately 400. Additional information about the Friends is available at <http://www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org/> or call 772-9268.

We encourage submissions of library-related material. **The deadline for publication is the 6th day of each month of publication—January, April, July and October.** Articles are to be submitted to Robert Fuller Davis in any of the following formats: email to [news@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org](mailto:news@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org) either in text or as attachments in Word or WordPerfect; CD in Word or WordPerfect, or in written form legible for transcription. Nothing will be accepted verbally. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject material. Each article is the opinion of its author and does not necessarily represent the opinion or endorsement of the Friends or the Library or the editors.

### Friends Board of Directors

Karen Robert, President	772-9268	<a href="mailto:pres@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">pres@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Joan Decker, Vice-president	771-8323	<a href="mailto:vp@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">vp@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Nancy Burke, Secretary	772-1735	<a href="mailto:secy@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">secy@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
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Susan McElhinney, Programs	772-7877	<a href="mailto:programs@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">programs@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Jennifer Redman, Membership	772-7398	<a href="mailto:members@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">members@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Laurie Allen, Ways and Means		<a href="mailto:booksales@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">booksales@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Robert Fuller Davis, Newsletter	772-0874	<a href="mailto:news@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">news@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>

### Friends Support

Rick Gilligan, Website Coordinator		<a href="mailto:webmaster@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">webmaster@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Joan Petersen, Volunteer Coordinator	772-2604	<a href="mailto:volunteers@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">volunteers@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Jude Long, <b>Branch Manager</b>	772-6394	<a href="mailto:jloug@slolibrary.org">jloug@slolibrary.org</a>



## The 2 Chefs Program

**You are invited to a special program directly following the Annual Membership Meeting Friday Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at the Library**

**WE ARE HOSTING 2 MORRO BAY CHEFS:  
KIRK SOWELL – FRANKIE & LOLA'S  
SHAWN WASHBURN – SHAWN'S ON MAIN**

YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TASTE SOME OF THE CHEF'S CUISINE, LEARN ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES & BEHIND THE SCENES STORIES, TRICKS AND FAVORITE RECIPES



## Upcoming Events

All events occur at the Morro Bay Library Program Room unless otherwise noted.



### **Reoccurring Every Month!**

- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10:00am-12:00pm - Readers' Community Book Discussion Group
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays 10:00am-12:00 pm - Inspirational Topics Discussion Group
- 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 10:00am-12:00pm - Celebration and Appreciation of Literature through local author readings, special presentations and other literary activities.

### **November**

- 4 *Sweet Thursday* by **John Steinbeck** Join us this month as we celebrate John Steinbeck. Return to Cannery Row as Steinbeck brings to life denizens of a world of laughter and tears.
- 5 **Supervisor Bruce Gibson** office hours – MB Library Program Room 4-5 pm

7 <b>Book Sale</b> (9-10am Members Only) 10am-2pm Sale; 1-2pm \$3 bag sale
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- 11 **Holiday - Library closed**
- 18 *Travels with Charley In Search of America* by **John Steinbeck** Let's join Steinbeck and his poodle Charley on a journey across America in 1960 on the eve of a tumultuous decade.
- 20 Morro Bay Friends of the Library Membership & Elections Meeting begins at 11:30a.m. Special program directly following. Free continental lunch provided. Public welcome. **Members make your voice and vote count!**
- 25 **No book discussion this week**
- 26-27 **Holiday - Library closed**

### **December**

- 2 *Morality for Beautiful Girls* by **Alexander McCall Smith** This story continues the adventures of the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency special and intriguing cases.
- 3 **Supervisor Bruce Gibson** office hours – MB Library Program Room 4-5 pm
- 9 *No assigned book...*For this special inspirational Wednesdays program, bring a book that has had an impact on your life to share with the rest of the group.
- 16 *No assigned book...*Discussion of non-reading list books, fiction or non-fiction, that you have found especially interesting or informative.
- 25 **Holiday - Library closed**

### **January**

- 1 **Holiday - Library closed**
- 7 **Supervisor Bruce Gibson** office hours – MB Library Program Room 4-5 pm
- 13 *Excavating Your Authentic Self* by **Sarah Ban Breathnach** We begin the New Year with our first Inspirational 2nd Wednesdays series by uncovering our authentic self. What will we discover along the way? Let's explore this journey together.
- 19 **Holiday - Library closed**
- 20 *Murder in Los Lobos* by **Sue McGinty**\* A dramatic, action-packed debut...Our 1<sup>st</sup> Readers' Community Book Discussion of the year hosts the author who will answer our questions about her dynamic mystery.
- 22 **Friends – Board of Directors Meeting** – 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Open to the Public
- 24 **Retirement Celebration** - 2-4p.m. to honor Jude Long. Bring a great story to tell.
- 27 *It's The Stories You Tell That Color Your Life* by **Alan & MaryLou Falstreau**\* Join us for our 1st 4th Wednesdays program of the year as the author and illustrator provide a moving workshop demonstration that incorporates the key messages of their book: play, understanding, healing and joy.

\*Author(s) will join us.



## Fund-raising Report

The past twelve months have been busy for Ways and Means volunteers.

First, we had four very successful book sales, which continue to



**Eager book buyers peruse tables at the quarterly book sale.**

be our major fund-raisers. Second, we are back at the Morro Bay Saturday Farmers' Market, thanks to volunteer Torrey Scharton. Third, our lobby book and magazine sales have been brisk, and allow patrons to purchase books and magazines between sales. Finally, we participated in the recent Book and Author Event in Mission Square, San Luis Obispo.

These activities are more than just fund-raisers, although we all know how much our libraries need financial assistance. They also provide community outreach and connect the library with our users. Friends of the Library volunteers are examples of our commitment to both the library and our community.

The bottom line is that we raised around \$20,000 for books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, children's programs, adult programs, and more. I'm incredibly proud to be a part of that, and I hope you are too.

Don't forget that book donations are at the heart of our fund-raising efforts.



**Torrey Scharton and her mother, Shannon, at Saturday Farmers Market in Morro Bay.**

Please donate your books to us whenever possible.

Thanks to everyone for their continuing support, and let's do it again next year!

– Laurie Allen



**Volunteer Coordinator Joan Petersen takes a deep breath at the August book sale.**



## Librarian Jude Sanner Long Retires

I will be retiring this year, just 2 months short of 35 years of service to the SLO County Library system and the community of Morro Bay.

My last day on the job will be Saturday, December 12, 2009. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of the many staff, volunteers, customers and community members I have met along the way.

Libraries are busier than ever. My wonderful and committed staff—Mary, Michele, Beth, BethAnn, and April—are doing a tremendous job of customer service for the 507 people daily (67 per hour) who pass through our doors. They are all working hard to keep up with the 22% increase in circulation over last fiscal year.

The Morro Bay Friends of the Library have been extraordinary to work with and I could not have accomplished the “growing” of this Library without their enthusiasm, support and their belief that a good library raises up the entire community.

I have enjoyed the journey from February 25, 1975 when I first started. With no computers, we had paper catalogs of our Black Gold Cooperative System’s holdings. If you special ordered a title, it would take on average 2 months to be received.

Reference questions were often answered using outdated materials because no other information was available.

Books were checked out by signature, so all library staff became experts in handwriting. Whenever we had an unreadable signature, we learned to try to read it upside down. By doing so, you play a trick on your mind and are likely to “see” what is written.

I believe that libraries are part of the weave of our community and that when

you pull out that thread, the community begins to unravel. You are never completely

alone when you have books, movies, music and the Internet to connect you with the rest of humanity. Sharing stories and communicating in any medium builds community.

I believe that mental achievement is as exciting as physical or financial achievement and libraries promote the process of lifelong learning. They help people get and stay smarter. They celebrate the life of the mind. Keeping our brains in shape is certainly just as important as keeping our bodies healthy. No matter what else is going on, ideas can set you free, keep you sane, and maybe even save your life.

I believe that libraries help people freely develop, nurture, exchange and preserve ideas. They increase our intellectual capital.

I hope that I have wholeheartedly shared my passion for libraries, reading, information and people throughout my career and that the Morro Bay Library will soon have a wonderful new librarian with fresh, exciting ideas and cutting edge technical skills.

I do intend on continuing with my community service, especially with the Rotary of Morro Bay and the Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce. I also look forward to having time to reconnect with friends and family and to being involved in a healthy and rewarding life in SLO County.

When you see me walking on the beach, or at a café table enjoying coffee, or volunteering at a community event, please come over and say hello.

—Jude Sanner Long





## LIBRARY BUILDING MOSAIC MURAL RESTORATION PROJECT

Work began sharply at 9 am, 20 July, on what turned out to be a truly fun operation with the erection of scaffolding. By midday, we were under way with volunteers washing and sorting tiles while Steve Proano, master tile setter, and artist Peter Ladochy began directing the team of workers manning the scaffolds.

Our intrepid volunteers consisted of individuals of all ages. The youngest, Duke Meaney, came with his grandparents, the Du Fosees, to help wash and sort tiles. Riley Proano, Ben Koppl, and Betsy Kinter climbed all over the scaffolding; courageously extending themselves to areas where older, less supple bodies could not quite reach. Creighton Decker, David Rosenthal, and Roger Ewing served time on the wall as well. Everybody on the list gave generously of their time and helped to make this a resoundingly wonderful event!

A passer-by who remembered the first incarnation of the mosaic commented to me that it is unfortunate to realize that, in another twenty years or so, the mural will probably be in disrepair and need to be restored yet again. "How

wonderful is that!" I thought. How exciting that another generation of citizens of Morro Bay will have the opportunity to acknowledge the value of this work of art to the community.

For the present, I hope that all of us, especially Riley, Ben, and Duke, will remember their experience and that someday they will be able to bring their children to the Morro Bay Library and tell them, "I helped to restore this mural that celebrates the history and beauty of the Central Coast."

To all the volunteers, and Steve Proano, Peter Ladochy, Alberic Nault, who charged us so little for the use of his scaffolding, and to Joe Woods from the Recreation and Parks Department of Morro Bay, thank you one and all for a great job!!!!

– Joan M. Decker

### VOLUNTEERS:

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rita Brotherton            | Duke Meaney (age 5)   |
| Creighton Decker           | Berta Parrish         |
| Elaine and Robert Du Fosee | Riley Proano (age 10) |
| Roger Ewing                | Catherine Reustmann   |
| Herb Garfield              | David Rosenthal       |
| Betsy Kinter               | Susan Stephens        |
| Ben Koppl (age 17)         | Richard Strasburg     |
|                            | Lynn Wickham          |



**Ben Koppl working on the high board, while Steve Proano, master tile-setter, gets ready to replace missing tiles on the bottom level of the scaffolding.**



**Roger Ewing and Joan Decker sorting, cleaning, and drying tiles**



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**Thank you from the Membership Chair**

What a wonderful year we have had with memberships growing and people donating. It is a beautiful thing to see how everyone gives when giving is tough due to the economy.

The Library, the community, the families and the individuals are thankful that we have people like all of you helping to keep our library running and growing.

Thank you also to the volunteers at the membership table and book sales for your time and energy.

If you would like to help more with growing membership and awareness of the Friends of the Library, please give me a call at 805-772-7938.

May each of your days be full of love and laughter. Happy Holidays!!!

– Jennifer Redman

**Newsletter Advertising**

**A**ttention Business Owners—Are you a library lover? The Friends of Morro Bay Library are giving you the opportunity to advertise your product or service to other Friends Members. Each Business Member receives one free business card ad and each additional ad is \$15 per newsletter. You can encourage your business neighbors to participate as well. Even non-members of the Friends are welcome at only \$40 per issue. For more information, please call Jennifer Redman at 805-772-7938.



ONE FREE CHILDREN'S BOOK WITH MEMBERSHIP!\*

**Junior Membership Application**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of parent** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return with a \$2.00 payment to  
Morro Bay Friends of the Library  
625 Harbor Street  
Morro Bay CA 93442

\*Child is entitled to one free regular priced children's book at any Friends of the Library Book Sale. One free book total per membership. Must present Junior membership card at checkout.

# friends members

get your friends to join!



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL**

Morro Bay Friends of the Library  
625 Harbor Street, Morro Bay CA 93442

**Membership:**

- New
- Renewal

**DUES (tax deductible)**

- Individual \$5/year
- Family \$10/year
- Business \$25/year
- Individual Lifetime \$100

**Volunteers are at the heart of the library's success. If you would like to be involved, please indicate your interests(s):**

- Shelving books
- Fund Raising
- Membership
- Book Sales
- Programs
- Board of Directors
- Other (specify)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



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