



Among Friends

Morro Bay Friends of the Library newsletter

Winter 2010

Volume 29, Edition 1

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.

Welcome to 2010!

What is your New Year's resolution? The Friends have lofty goals that they would like to accomplish in the New Year – some of which need your help to make happen! To begin, it is our hope that this year we will **finally** see the resolution of our library lease agreement with the city of Morro Bay. What will it take for this community to be certain that they get the library they want and need for the next 50 years or so? We also hope to continue to have successful book sales, as well as **see more people willing to volunteer** their leadership skills and time with the Friends organization to help us succeed. Another goal we have is adjusting to the retirement of our Friend, and longtime Branch Manager, Jude Long – as well as welcoming a new Branch Manager to work with our community in the new year.

Thankfully, we are fortunate to have a very dedicated staff, as well as a dynamic Friends Board of Directors working on behalf of our Library. We also have some amazing volunteers who help at each book sale. All these volunteers are tireless, devoted and enthusiastic individuals who give more than their share of time and support to our Library. But, they can't do it all! **We need your help**, too! Is one of your New Year's resolutions to volunteer in your community? Why not start with your Library?

Last year I mentioned that we needed coordinator support with our Morro Bay Saturday Farmers' Market Book Sales, and Friends public relations. Gratefully, Torrey Scharton and Jack McCurdy stepped up to the plate. But we still need people to help with coordinating some events that you told us were important to have at our Library. Some of the program ideas you shared with me included children's programs like a: Sleepover at our Library; Library birthday parties for kids; Kid's Book Parade; Kids Meet Children's Authors; Family campaign to get Kids to Read; Family Night Out at the Library – Turn off your TV; Educational Films; Friends-sponsored Bus Trips with Literary Emphasis; Mystery Authors Event; Concerts on the patio; Foreign Film Night; Holiday Recognition Events and/or Teen related programs at the Library.

The Friends have the budget to provide such events as noted above, but we just don't have the volunteers to coordinate them. If something I mentioned is of interest to you, please feel free to contact me and let's find a way to make it happen together! Or, go to www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org to download your volunteer application now!

I hope I have given you something to think about....perhaps volunteering on behalf of the Friends organization, and the Morro Bay Library will be a way of fulfilling your New Year's resolution! I hope so.

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 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.

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Please welcome our new Board members:

Jack McCurdy moved to Morro Bay in 1980 from Los Angeles where he was a reporter for the Los Angeles Times for 20 years. He covered elementary and secondary schools for 13 years at the Times. Living in Morro Bay, he was California correspondent for the weekly Chronicle of Higher Education for 20 years and West Coast correspondent for Education USA, an elementary and secondary schools weekly, for 15 years while also reporting for the Chronicle. He graduated from the University of Southern California with a degree in journalism and from Cal State Northridge with an MA in history. He was also an Alfred North Whitehead Fellow for Advanced Study in Education at Harvard University in 1970-71. He has been active in Morro Bay civic organizations for 27 years and is co-founder of the Coastal Alliance on Plant Expansion (CAPE), which is observing its 10th anniversary this year. He is also a regular contributor to the SLO Coast Journal. Jack is serving as the Friends first Public Relations Director.

Jan Goldman was recently elected as the Friends Programs Director. She was born and raised in the small community of Corralitos in Santa Cruz County. She attended Watsonville schools and then earned her elementary education credential from San Jose State University. She moved to Northridge, California, because her then-husband was hired to be an animator for Walt Disney Studios. After her divorce, she taught in Los Angeles schools while raising her two sons. She also earned, while working, an elementary special education credential from Long Beach State University. She has studied Spanish and was certified "fluent" by the state of California. Although circumstances kept her in the Los Angeles area, as soon as she had a chance she decided to move to Morro Bay because she truly is a small-town girl at heart.

The Friends organization is honored to have both these individuals as part of the 2010 Board of Directors.

Upcoming Events

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



Reoccurring Every Month!

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

February

- 3 *Salmon Run* by **S.W. Capps*** S.W. Capps paints a magnificent landscape of love, greed, laughter, and hope, taking readers on an unforgettable journey.
- 4 **Supervisor Bruce Gibson** office hours MB Library Program Room 4 5 pm

6 Book Sale (9-10am Members Only) 10am-2pm Sale; 1-2pm \$3 bag sale

- 10 *Dancing in the Footsteps of Eve* by **Heather Mendel*** A local author will take us on a spiritual journey to consciousness, balance, reconciliation.
- 12 **Holiday - Library closed**
- 16 **Holiday - Library closed**
- 17 *The Shack* by **Wm. Paul Young** Four years after the abduction and apparent murder of his child, Mack receives a note, apparently from God, inviting him to....
- 24 *Disappearing Destinations* by **Kimberly Lisagor*** Join local author Kim Lisagor as we learn about 37 places in peril and what can be done to help save them.

March

- 3 *Pillars of the Earth* by **Ken Follett** Prologue & Part I Over a three week period we will read and discuss this spellbinding epic tale set against the sprawling medieval canvas of twelfth century England.
- 4 **Supervisor Bruce Gibson** office hours MB Library Program Room 4 5 pm
- 10 *Pillars of the Earth* Parts 2 & 3
- 17 *Pillars of the Earth* Parts 4 6
- 19 **Friends Board of Directors Meeting** 11:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. Public welcome.
- 24 Presentation **Ken Christensen*** Join us during this special 4th Wednesdays program, as we celebrate this local artist/author and listen to passages from his books, *Up North with Uncle Bob*, *The Blue Cabin*, and *Joey Appleshoe, A Work in Progress*.
- 31 *Sigourney's Quest* **Gordon Snider*** Experience Tibet and the images that relate to this author's book, *Sigourney's Quest*. The author will also take us to the San Francisco of 1906, and share how it relates to his newest novel, a historical thriller entitled, *The Hypnotist*

April

- 1 **Supervisor Bruce Gibson** office hours MB Library Program Room 4 5 pm
- 7 *Can't Wait to Get to Heaven* **Fannie Flagg** Combining southern warmth with unabashed emotion and side splitting hilarity, the author takes readers to Missouri.
- 12 16 **National Library Week**
- 16 **Brunch** - Library and Friends Volunteer Recognition 9 11 am RSVP Required.
- 14 *The Celestine Prophecy An Adventure* by **James Redfield** The 9 key points in this book claim to provide insights into life itself. Is it a book that can change our lives forever?
- 18 24 **National Volunteer Week**
- 21 *The Castillo Legacy* **Howard Eduardo Burt***
- 28 *Days Like Floating Water, A Story of Modern China* **Sue McKee***

*Author(s) will join us.



Ways and Means 2009 End of the Year Report

The Ways and Means Committee and its volunteers had a very busy year in 2009. It is a tribute to the hard work of many people over the last 12 months that made this our most successful fundraising year ever.

Book Sales: Our quarterly book sales were bigger and better than ever, netting almost \$14,000.

Farmer's Market: Our booth at the Morro Bay Saturday Farmer's Market contributed almost \$1,700. Thanks Torrey!

Lobby Sales: Having books and magazines for sale in the library lobby has been another ongoing source of revenue, to the tune of \$4,600. This includes our colorful new Friends' tote bags.

Internet: Ric Deschler's online presence garnered another \$700 through Craigslist.

Book and Author Event: And finally, our appearance at the Book and Author Festival in October added another \$240 to the coffers.

The combined efforts of many dedicated volunteers brought in a total of 21093.99 in fundraising activities in 2009.

Once again I ask that you support our fundraisers by donating all books in good condition that you no longer need to us for our book sales. Thanks everyone. I'm looking forward to another great year in 2010. A happy and healthy new year to you all!

- Laurie Allen
Ways and Means

Good News

by Jude Sanner Long

On Tuesday, Dec.15, 2009 the Board of Supervisors, working with County employees and SLO County Employee's Association came to an agreement that saved all layoffs that were scheduled to become effective Jan.1, 2010. Once again, employees have agreed to take a cut in order to guarantee no layoffs until July 1, 2010. A similar step was taken to avoid layoffs to take place July 1, 2009. Please thank your Library staff for their flexibility and commitment in reducing their benefits to avoid layoffs and keep the Library open. What happens after July 1, 2010 is unknown and will depend on the County and State budgets and the property tax levels.

What does this mean at Morro Bay Library?

For now there will be no cuts in staff or open hours and we have been fortunate to fill our 20-hour position through the transfer of Susan Krout from the SLO Library. Susan is experienced, well-trained and a delightful addition to the Morro Bay staff. Please welcome her!

New Volunteers

Department-wide we are actively pursuing a new volunteer program that will add more highly-trained volunteers to provide direct support to staff. Nancy Armstrong is in this first wave of volunteers and she is emptying book drops for us on our closed days.

2010 Book Sale Dates

Mark your calendars

February 6

August 7

May 8

November 6

Join the Friends of the Library

What do we do?

- We shelve books
- We mend books
- We purchase rental books, DVDs and supplies
- We provide computers and printers for public use
- We fund adult and children's programs
- We purchase furniture and fixtures
- We process donated materials for sale and use the proceeds for the library

Top 10 Reasons to Join

- Meet new people
- Make new friends
- Low membership fees
- It doesn't take much time yet makes a big difference
- Your involvement makes a direct impact on the library
- If you love books, you've come to the right place
- Help keep our children loving books and reading
- We offer a variety of volunteer positions and schedules
- Exciting events and book sales
- It's fun!

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

2009 Accomplishments

Thank you Friends of the Library and donors for a successful 2009. Together with the SLO County Library Department we have accomplished the

following:

- \$20,000 in gifts for the purchase of new books and media discs
- Weekly Book Discussion Programs
- Monthly Local Authors Programs
- Participation in the SLO County Reads Preface Program
- A Call to Volunteerism within our community & library
- Twelve special cultural programs & performances for children
- District 2 Supervisor Bruce Gibson's office hours support
- Eight beautiful red leather chairs in the reading area
- Express DVD collection of the most popular titles
- New window screens throughout the building
- Participation in the Foundation for SLO County Libraries
- Participation in the Central Coast Book & Author Festival
- Four Used Book Sales and the resumption of Book Sales at the Saturday Market
- New Polaris computer system and website
- Alternative Work Program volunteer help
- Lobby lighting and electrical outlets for laptops
- Wiring and computer adding a 3rd Public Catalog workstation
- Circulation of Video Games including Nintendo Wii, Microsoft X-Box 360, and Sony Playstation 3
- And much more-thank you all for your positive energies and support of the Library!





2009 Financial Review

by Ric Deschler Treasurer

Morro Bay Friends of the Library Board of Directors and our many volunteers worked hard during 2009 to provide funding for our library. Over \$32,000 was raised for the general fund thanks to the generosity of donors and fund raising activities by our volunteers. We want to thank everyone who contributed to this financial success.

In Laurie's Ways and Means report, she gives the results of our Quarterly Book Sales and Saturday Farmers Markets.

Jennifer Redman helped the Friends organization grow strong collecting \$2,600 in memberships. We keep our membership fees low to ensure access to all who want to participate in supporting their library through the Friends. Several new individual Life Memberships of \$100 were also part of that total.

We received \$4,800 in direct cash donation in 2009. Many of these donations were given to honor or remember others. We received gifts In Memory of the following:

*Nick Yakovich,
Virginia Allen Lombardo Molinari,
Virginia Keyes Schleinz*

We also received gifts In Honor of the following:

*Susan McElhinney
Jude Sanner Long*

So, what are some of the things we have been doing with the money that we have been raising?

The Friends provided the Morro Bay Branch Library with \$18,000 in direct support to meet its needs in 2009. \$7,800 was used to provide books, subscriptions, and audio visual. About

\$3,500 supported the various children's programs throughout the year. The new chairs in the reading area were purchased by the Friends for \$2,400. And who could miss the restoration project of the tile mural on the library building. The long over-due project cost \$2,670.

The Friends spent around \$4,700 to operate the organization in 2009. About \$1,400 of that was used producing this quarterly newsletter as well as other membership expenses. Our newsletter expenses can be reduced significantly if you switch over and request to receive it electronically. That will reduce printing and mailing costs.

We purchased a new stock of book bags for \$1,700 to be used for fundraising. The rest was used for book sale supplies, postage and brochure printings. We do our best to keep operational expenses at a minimum.

The expansion of the library into the program room and enclosure of the patio area are still on hold pending the lease negotiations of the building with the City of Morro Bay. We hope that these negotiations are resolved soon so that we may provide the residents of Morro Bay with better library services.

Library Hours

Mon - Closed	Tue - Wed 10am-7pm
Thu-Fri - 10am-5pm	Sat - 10am-4pm
Sundays - Closed	805-772-6394



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Your Perpetual Legacy

Make a commitment to future generations by preserving your library. Remember the Morro Bay Friends of the Library in your will by creating an endowment. Your actions today will preserve the library you so love for tomorrow.



Contact
Ric Deschler
Treasurer at
772 9244 or email
treasurer@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org

Newsletter Advertising

Attention 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)

I prefer to receive newsletter via

- email
- US Postal Service

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____



Morro Bay Friends of the Library
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