

## Upcoming Events

### Feb 7-8

Silicon Valley Puzzle Day

### Feb 9

Volunteer lunch bunch at Erik's Deli

### Feb 12

Brian Copeland, Silicon Valley Reads

### March 9 (and every 2nd Mon)

Lunch bunch

### March 12

FMHL Board meeting

### April 18

Big Book Sale

## Inside This Issue

Puzzle Day.....	1, 10
Silicon Valley Reads.....	1, 9
President's Message.....	2
Librarian's Report.....	3
Books Among Friends.....	4
Osher Classes .....	4
Volunteer Updates & Needs....	5
Book Sales Report.....	6
Booklist Picks .....	7
Love Your Library. ....	7
Staff Profile.....	8
Recent Events .....	11
LCAC Update.....	11
Puzzle Party Invitation.....	12

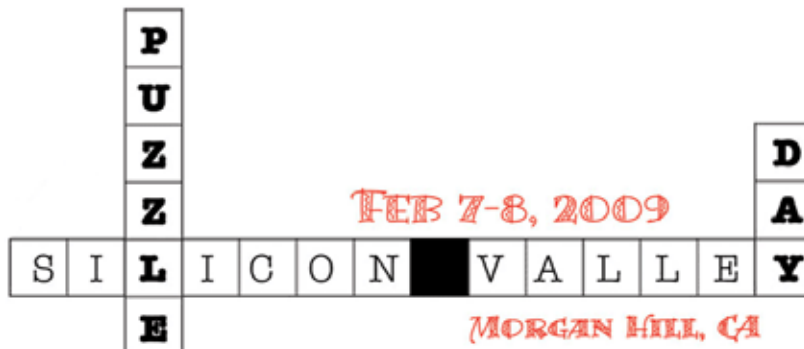
## It's time for Puzzle Day 2009!

A whole weekend of fun February 7th & 8th

After months of planning, the third annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day is almost here!

Presented again by the Friends of the Library, the annual crossword and sudoku tournament continues to grow into one of Morgan Hill's signature events, drawing local puzzle lovers

and well as people from around the state. This year Puzzle Day will span the whole weekend of February 7th-8th, with workshops on Saturday, a special evening event on Saturday night, and the tournaments on Sunday. Read more about the workshops and tournament schedules on p. 10 of this newsletter. A special thank you to all the Friends who are volunteering to help out! The bookstore will be open both days and we'll be encouraging people to become members of the Friends. We hope that you will come to the event and tell all your friends and neighbors to come as well! More information about the event is available on the Puzzle Day web site, <http://www.svpuzzle.org>. Please contact Lisa ([lisapampuch@iname.com](mailto:lisapampuch@iname.com)) or Emily ([emily@chocolatespoon.com](mailto:emily@chocolatespoon.com)) if you are interested in helping out.



## SILICON VALLEY READS 2009

**"Not a Genuine Black Man: My Life as an Outsider"**

### SILICON VALLEY READS IN MORGAN HILL

with author  
BRIAN COPELAND

Thursday, February 12, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Morgan Hill Community Playhouse  
17090 Monterey Rd. at E. 5th St., Morgan Hill

Free and open to the public.

For more information contact the Library (408) 779-3196

*Details on page 9*



## *Message from the President*

**Carol O'Hare, 782-9029, cbohare@garlic.com**

As we start a new year, the Friends can look back at a very successful 2008 and anticipate another great year ahead. But if you haven't yet renewed your membership, you won't be part of all the activities that support the library. To renew, pick up a form in the Friends bookstore or go online to

[www.friendsmhlibrary.org](http://www.friendsmhlibrary.org).

### **Thanks to 2008 Board**

I want to extend our thanks to Lisa Pampuch for serving as president last year. She brought a fresh perspective to the Friends, and we're grateful for the many things that she accomplished. She had us join a national Friends of the Library organization, and that has given us connections with other groups around the country. She held the first board retreat and encouraged us to look toward the future, focusing on how the organization might be structured as it grows. Bylaws were amended as a result.

She wrote the application that earned the Friends a \$1000 award for our Beyond Books fundraising campaign for the new library. And she continues to co-chair, along with Emily Shem-Tov, the annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day at the library. She and Emily are also working to establish the Morgan Hill Library Foundation under the auspices of the Morgan Hill Community Foundation.

Thanks also to other outgoing board members: Yvonne Duckett and Bud O'Hare. Both have served us well for several years. We're happy to welcome returning board members Vicky Reader, Teresa Stephenson, Karen MacDonald and Leigh Donaldson. We're especially grateful to Gina Kightly, a new member who is taking over all the responsibilities of Treasurer. I look forward to working with these committed volunteers.

### **2008 Year – End Financial Report**

The financial position of the Friends continues to be strong. Book sales and the bookstore brought in \$36,868. All other income (memberships, grants, donations) totaled \$8,712. The Friends spent \$21,805 on library programs and activities. In addition, Beyond Books Campaign funds provided \$20,063 for furnishings for the library and \$11,786 for art (quotations on the walls of the adult section and robot sculptures in the children's area.) We ended the year with assets of \$32,794 in the Friends operating account and \$59,780 in Beyond Books Campaign funds.

### **Friends Board Meetings**

With the change in bylaws, we now will have only one general membership meeting each year. However, members of the Friends are welcome to attend the quarterly board meetings. The next one is Thursday, March 12, 7 pm at the library. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

### **Doddie Knopf Memorial Gifts and the Library Foundation**

Georgianna "Doddie" Knopf was a long time member and volunteer with the Friends. When she died in November at the age of 91, her family asked that gifts in her memory be donated to the Friends of the Library. The board, with the approval of the Knopf family, has voted to use these funds as seed money for the new Morgan Hill Library Foundation. The total of these gifts, including a generous contribution from Roger and Janie Knopf, is \$2500, exactly the amount needed. We're very grateful to the Knopfs and to Emily and Lisa for starting the foundation that will build an endowment to fund capital and large-scale operational needs of the Morgan Hill Library.



## Librarian's Report, January 2009

Rosanne Macek, Community Librarian

Happy New Year! We've started off the New Year very busy in the library after being a bit slow during the holidays when people were doing other things.

As some of you may have read in our latest County Library newsletter, use of public libraries increases during difficult economic times, and this has been true in Morgan Hill. With the huge increases in usage we saw in the first year in our new library, I expected things to level off in 2008, but this has not been the case. Circulation and number of visitors are still up about 8% over last year, and we are seeing more people use our public computers to work on their resumes and look for jobs.

Because of the generous funding we continue to receive from the Friends, we had a number of popular programs in December. The biggest hit was Nick Barone's "Holiday Treats" puppet shows on Dec. 18 and 20. We had 332 happy attendees at these shows.

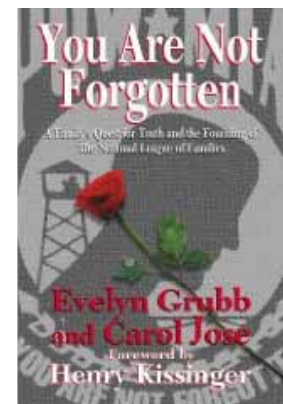
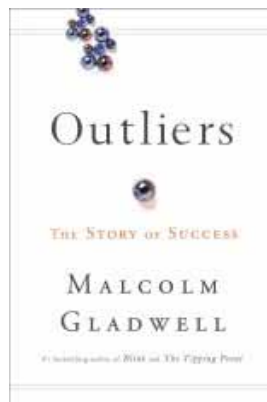
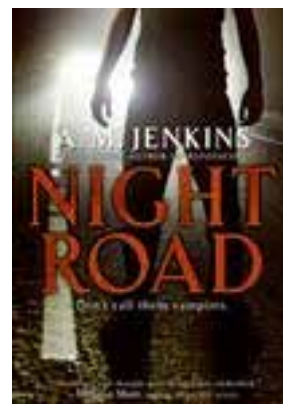
Our adult book group was on hiatus for the month, but our teen book group met for a discussion of *Night Road* by A.M. Jenkins. Extra copies of the books for both our adult and teen book groups are purchased with Friends' funding.

During the holiday break from school, we also had some gaming programs featuring Guitar Hero and Wii. These programs were enjoyed by all ages. All the equipment was purchased by the Friends.

In January, we celebrated Chinese New Year with a program featuring the Red Panda Acrobats. Our adult book group started up again with a discussion of *Not a Genuine Black Man* by Brian Copeland. This is also our Silicon Valley Reads selection for this year.

Read any good books lately? The most moving book I've read in a long time was *You Are Not Forgotten: A Family's Search for Truth and the Founding of the National League of Families* by Evelyn Grubb. Evelyn is the mother of our reference librarian, Jeff Grubb. This is the heartbreaking story of Jeff's family's ordeal when his father was shot down in Vietnam and taken prisoner. Jeff was 10 years old at the time and had 3 younger brothers. The family did not receive final confirmation of his father's death for 8 years. During this time Jeff's mother worked tirelessly in the U. S. and abroad to raise awareness of POWs, their treatment, and work towards their release. Sadly, Jeff lost his mother to cancer in 2005, and worked on completing the book after her death.

I also thoroughly enjoyed *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell. Some of you may recognize this author of previous bestsellers *The Tipping Point* and *Blink*. I love how he is able to take complex topics and create readable and entertaining books. His latest book deals with the topic of what makes people successful. His theories might surprise you. I highly recommend this book.



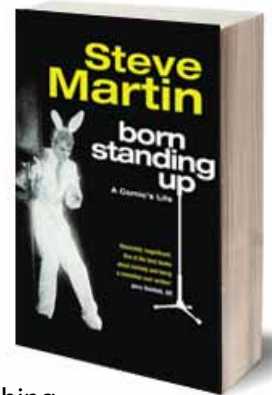
## Books Among Friends

Once again we asked some of the members of the Friends about books they've read recently that they would recommend. Here are a few of the responses. If you have a book you'd like to recommend, please send an email to [emily@chocolatespoon.com](mailto:emily@chocolatespoon.com) for inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter.

Karen MacDonald: *Alex and Me* by Irene M. Pepperberg. Animal behaviorist, Irene Pepperberg writes about highlights of her 30 year relationship with her African Grey Parrot, Alex. Alex was not only her scientific subject, but also a very important part of her life. She found that Alex was intelligent and also surprisingly emotional. Irene's grieving over Alex's unexpected death inspired her to write this book. The reader gets a glimpse at some of the amazing thinking that this bird exhibited which had never been observed before. Irene Pepperberg's study of birds has changed the way we view birds' brains. *Alex and Me* was written by a scientist, but it is humorous and heart-warming in addition to being informative.



Lisa Pampuch: I picked up *Born Standing Up: A Comic's Life* by Steve Martin on impulse when I saw it on the Friend's Bestseller Collection table at the library. What a wise impulse. His work as a writer (*LA Story*, *Shop Girl*, *Roxanne*, *Picasso at the Lapine Agile*) should be a big clue, but this book reveals just how far the "real" Steve Martin is from that "wild and crazy guy" character he played on the stand-up comedy circuit, and how seriously he took the art form of comedy. It's definitely worth your time.



Teresa Stephenson: My book recommendation is *Where is the Mango Princess? A Journey Back from Brain Injury*. Author Cathy Crimmins writes a memoir of her husband's recovery from Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) incurred in a boating accident. Recovery is not exactly the right word since after the accident he is in many ways different from the person he was before the accident. Told with honesty and humor, I found myself both horrified and laughing at the same time. How her family survived the tragedy is a compelling read.

## New Morgan Hill classes for adults 50 and better!

San Jose State University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute has partnered with our own Morgan Hill Centennial Recreation Center (MHCRC) to bring university-level, short-term classes without homework, tests and grades to adults 50+. Classes are held on Mondays and Saturdays at the MHCRC.

The Spring session classes offered now through March include: "Scorsese on Film," "Infection and Immunity," "So You Think That's Funny? A Century of Jewish Humor in America," "Book Arts: Making a Cloth-Covered Portfolio by Hand," and "History of Morgan Hill."

Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes exist at 122 university campuses throughout the country and are funded by a generous grant through The Osher Foundation.

To learn more about OLLI and its classes:

1. Visit [www.osher.sjsu.edu](http://www.osher.sjsu.edu) or call the Osher office – 408.924.2734
2. Visit or call the Morgan Hill Centennial Recreation Center – 408.782.1284 or
3. Call coordinator Donna Weisblatt – 408.778.7515



## *Volunteer Updates*

Karen MacDonald, Volunteer Coordinator, 779-3995

Looking back at the year 2008, we have a lot to be thankful for. We are certainly fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers. We have a hard-working, organized, and computer-literate person who is in charge of overseeing all book sales. In the bookstore, we have 27 volunteers who work on a regular basis. Forty people are substitutes and 21 are sorters. Some do both. Still other members work the Big Book Sales: organizing, setting up, cleaning up, and selling the books. Others work the booth at the Taste of Morgan Hill. Let's not forget the Friends officers who put in so much time and effort keeping the organization running smoothly. The Speakers Forum is a program that is run by a volunteer. Many interesting talks have been enjoyed by our community members because of her efforts. Recently, we've had a welcome addition to our volunteer group. A new member volunteered to get us started selling books online. This is untried territory for us that we hope will be worth the time and effort. It definitely looks promising. Last, but not least, our newsletter editor regularly provides us with a publication that is highly informative, attractive and very professional looking. What a lot of talent and energy we have in the members of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library! Thank you to all of you who help make the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library the great organization that it is.

Looking forward, we still have additional volunteer needs. Please see the following list of Volunteer Opportunities. If you would like to help the Friends in any of these tasks or want to learn more, please contact me.

## *Volunteer Opportunities*

### **PUBLICITY/MARKETING**

- Design Big Book Sale flyer (2x/year)
- Maintain publicity database, including deadlines
- Design flyers for events (4-6x/year)
- Submit event info to calendars (Out & About, Country News, SJ Mercury News, MH Times)
- Reserve Granada marquee to promote events
- Send news articles to MH Times for events
- Write and send press releases for events
- Distribute event flyers to Community Center, BookSmart, etc
- Collect publicity received and keep a scrapbook
- Update Friends brochure

### **MEMBERSHIP**

- Keep brochures stocked at library and Chamber office
- Maintain database of members
- Contact members who have not renewed
- Help with membership drive

### **BOOKSTORE**

- Work as cashier
- Develop uniform layout for bookstore procedures
- Revise Book Donation handout
- Keep flyers stocked at bookstore, make copies as needed

### **PROGRAMS**

- Assist with speakers forums and author events: contact speaker, reserve room (2-4x/yr)
- Arrange program for annual membership meeting
- Bring refreshments for membership meeting
- Plan social events for volunteers (white elephant party, volunteer appreciation)
- Work at Taste of Morgan Hill booth
- Help with other events: Friends 35th anniversary party, Robot naming contest

### **NEWSLETTER**

- Write articles for newsletter, including book recommendations
- Take photos at events
- Develop list of other local Friends groups for newsletter exchange

### **OTHER**

- Collect and tabulate volunteer hours 1x/month
- Train as back-up for online book selling
- Update website content

## Notes from the Book Sales Coordinator

Leigh Donaldson, LeighDonaldson@Charter.net

2008 was a great year for Friends Book Sales! We're pleased to report that during the first full calendar year in our new digs, we earned over \$36,000 (before expenses). And we have a record number of great volunteers that are making this happen.

Bookstore sales continue to be our prime source of revenue. The Friends Bookstore sales were over \$27,000 last year, thanks to more than 50 volunteer salespersons. That's over \$100 per day. About half of the Bookstore volunteers have a regular shift time, and the other half help out on a substitute basis. Thanks to ALL!

Quarterly Book Sales in 2008 grossed almost \$8,000, with over 40 volunteers making the 4 events happen. Late last summer, a committee of Friends "sorters & sellers" began monthly meetings to chart the future course of the Friends Big Book Sales. Their decision: we will have only 2 sales this year. So, mark your calendar for the first 2009 Big Book Sale - **Saturday, April 18th**. If you'd like to join the committee that meets the last Saturday of each month, contact me for additional details: [LeighDonaldson@Charter.net](mailto:LeighDonaldson@Charter.net)



In November, we started selling some of our higher priced and more unusual books on Amazon.com, and we earned over \$1,500 (before expenses). Currently there are between 200 & 300 books are listed on Amazon. To see what we are selling online, visit our Amazon Storefront at [www.amazon.com/shops/MHLibraryFriends](http://www.amazon.com/shops/MHLibraryFriends) (The Amazon storefront will be "closed" from January 22 to February 7, while our online seller volunteer is out of town.)



Listing on Amazon.com Storefront

Be sure to check out the Friends Bookstore next time you are in the library. We have received so many donations that we've been able to totally restock almost the entire store. If you're looking for new additions weekly, you should shop on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays; sorters regularly restock the bookstore.

We are very fortunate that many Friends volunteers wear more than one hat. Even so, in 2008, there were over 70 different members who sorted, sold, worked the Big Sales, or sold books online. We really appreciate your time and energy to help make our book sales such a success.

Thanks also to everyone who donated books and materials in 2008, so we had something to sell. And a quick reminder on donations: If you're ready to clean out your home or office bookshelves, remember we accept donations whenever the library is open. We'll loan you a cart to bring in boxes from your car, and we can provide you with a donation receipt to use for your taxes. Remember, proceeds from our bookselling operations support the services of our community library - to purchase materials and furnishings and to provide programs that the library could not otherwise afford.

Thanks again for all your support.

We were sad to learn of the recent death of Bob Snively, a longtime member of the Friends. Our sincere condolences to his wife Sandy and their family.

The Friends is one of the organizations that has been designated to receive gifts in Bob's memory.

## February is Love Your Library Month



As a Friend of the Morgan Hill Library, we know that you love the library -- and February is a great month to show it! February is "Library Lovers' Month," a month-long celebration of school, public, and private libraries of all types. This is a time for everyone, especially library support groups, to recognize the value of libraries and to work to assure that the nation's libraries will continue to serve.

There are many ways that you can show your love of the library! Here are just a few:

- \* Donate your time, money, and expertise to the library. There is a list of volunteer opportunities on p. 5 of this newsletter that will give you ideas for ways you can help the Friends support the library.
- \* Donate your used books for the Friends bookstore and book sales.
- \* If you are not already a member of the Friends (or haven't renewed your membership yet), please join the Friends of the Library. If you are already a member, consider giving the gift of membership to a friend or relative.
- \* Help to promote the library. You don't have to be a public relations expert to help out; you just have to talk about the library to your friends and co-workers. You could write letters to newspapers or speak up for the library at community groups that you belong to.
- \* Stop by and tell the librarians and library staff how much you appreciate all the work they do to make our library such an amazing place.
- \* Attend Friends of the Library events -- **Silicon Valley Puzzle Day is coming February 7-8** and **Silicon Valley Reads 2009 author Brian Copeland comes to Morgan Hill on February 12**. More details about both of these great events can be found inside this newsletter.

## Booklist Announces Prestigious 2008 Top of the List

Booklist magazine, the review journal of the American Library Association (ALA), has announced its 19th annual Top of the List winners. The eight winning titles were chosen from the annual Editors' Choice selections as the best books and media of 2008.

"This year's Top of the List winners again show that excellence in print, video and audio comes in many forms, from a hard-hitting contemporary novel about life on the streets of New York's Lower East Side (Richard Price's *Lush Life*) to a stunning picture book celebrating baseball's Negro Leagues (Kadir Nelson's *We Are the Ship*)," said Booklist Editor and Publisher Bill Ott.

The Top of the List picks are featured in the special combined January 1 and 15 issue of Booklist, which includes the complete annotated Editors' Choice lists for adult books, books for young adults, books for youth, reference sources and media. The winners—including the longer Editors' Choice list from which the Top of the List titles are selected—are also announced on Booklist Online at [www.BooklistOnline.com](http://www.BooklistOnline.com).

The 2008 Booklist Top of the List winners are:

- \* Adult Fiction: *Lush Life*, by Richard Price (Farrar)
- \* Adult Nonfiction: *Pictures at a Revolution: Five Movies and the Birth of the New Hollywood*, by Mark Harris (Penguin)
- \* Youth Fiction: *Little Audrey*, by Ruth White (Farrar)
- \* Youth Nonfiction: *We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*, written and illustrated by Kadir Nelson (Hyperion/Jump at the Sun)
- \* Youth Picture Book: *The House in the Night*, by Susan Marie Swanson and illustrated by Beth Krommes (Houghton)
- \* Reference Source: *African American National Biography*, edited by Henry Louis Gates and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (Oxford)
- \* Video & DVD: *Kamp Katrina* (Carnavalesque)
- \* Audio: *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, by David Wroblewski; read by Richard Poe (Recorded Books)



## Staff Profile: SaraLynn Otter

In this issue of the newsletter, we'd like to introduce you to SaraLynn Otter, our Children's Program Librarian. She has been working at the Morgan Hill Library for three years now.

SaraLynn grew up in Santa Cruz, but her first full-time library job was working for Los Angeles City Library, so she lived in LA for about 5 years. She wanted to move back to the Bay Area to be close to her family, so she started looking for work in the area. She had heard great things about the Santa Clara County system, so when a job opened up, she went for it.



Although she claims that we wouldn't know it from her Guitar Hero performances at recent teen events at the library, SaraLynn used to play in a few bands and plans on learning some children's songs on the guitar so that she can play them at storytime one day. She and her husband have several musical instruments crammed in to their apartment that they tinker around on such as guitars, an organ, flute, Saw-u (a Thai string instrument), and the latest addition, a musical saw. She really wants a marimba but does not currently have room for one.

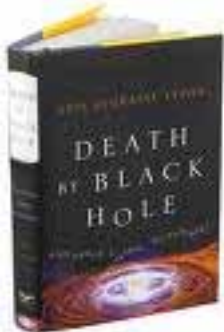
**Q:** What's your favorite thing about the new library or about working at the library in general?

**A:** There are many, many great things about the new library! I don't know if I have one particular favorite, unless you count the entire children's area as one. I love the new program room, having my own office, more shelf space for the collection, more people using the library because of the new building; the list goes on and on...

I've worked in public libraries for a long time, as a page, a clerk, and now as a librarian. When I was deciding what I wanted to do as a career, I realized I loved being surrounded by stories, and having all of that information at my fingertips. I also love learning new things, and as a librarian I get to learn something new everyday by answering reference questions, or discovering a new book.

**Q:** Any book recommendations for us?

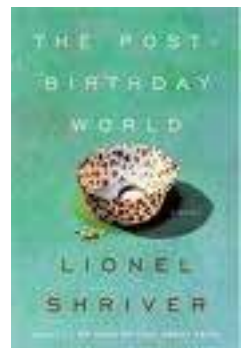
**A:** Some books I've read recently that I would recommend are: *Brief History of the Dead* by Kevin Brockmeier, *Post-Birthday World* by Lionel Shriver, *Death by Black Hole: and other cosmic quandaries* by Neil de Grasse Tyson, *Devil's Teeth: a true story of obsession and survival among America's great white sharks* by Susan Casey, *Twin Studies* by Stacey Richter, *Howl's Moving Castle* by Diana Wynne Jones, and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series by Jeff Kinney



A few of the books I am currently reading or will be shortly are: *Helping Me Help Myself: one skeptic, ten self-help Gurus, and a year on the brink of the comfort zone* by Beth Lisick, *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, *Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman, *Knucklehead* by Jon Scieszka, and *Pretty Monsters* by Kelly Link.

**Q:** What are you most looking forward to in 2009?

**A:** Getting the bilingual storytimes going, hiring a new Children's Librarian, and hopefully buying a house.



Stop by and say hello to SaraLynn next time you're in the library!



# Silicon Valley Reads in Morgan Hill, February 12

Continued from p. 1



A poignant, hilarious, and disarming memoir about growing up black in the all-white community of San Leandro, *Not a Genuine Black Man* is also a powerful contemplation on the meaning of race, and a thoughtful examination of how our surroundings make us who we are.

Brian Copeland is a stand-up comedian and host of a weekly radio program on KGO. His book is based on his wildly popular one-man show of the same name.

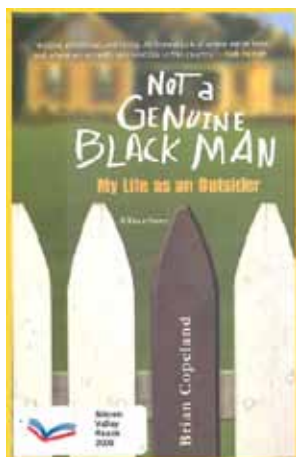
Books are available for purchase at 10% discount at BookSmart and at the event.

Co-sponsored by

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library, BookSmart, Morgan Hill Times and American Association of University Women (Morgan Hill Branch)

More information at [www.siliconvalleyreads.org](http://www.siliconvalleyreads.org)

## Book Discussion Guide



While you're reading *Not a Genuine Black Man*, this year's Silicon Valley Reads pick, here are some questions to think about from the discussion guide available at [www.siliconvalleyreads.org](http://www.siliconvalleyreads.org)

📖 Do you think that a very large majority of the black population is depressed due to all of the acts of prejudice against them?

📖 How can people help change and eliminate prejudice?

📖 How are black gangs or gangs of any color the result of racism?

📖 How can we identify racism within ourselves, even if we think we aren't racist (maybe we are)?

📖 What was the turning point in the book where Brian felt 'genuinely' black? What inner feelings brought him to that point?

📖 Imagine what it would be like to have a lifetime of pain heaped upon you because of the color of your skin. How would it feel to you? How would you adapt to it?

📖 Do you think Brian's mother, Carolyn, was right in trying to bring up her family in a white enclave despite the costs to her family in suffering racism?

📖 Brian has been accused of being an 'Oreo cookie', white on the inside. Is there any validity to analogies such as 'Oreo', 'banana' or 'coconut' or are they simply pejoratives? Is it an expected adaptation to living in a 'white' neighborhood? Does 'keeping it real' foster racism against whites?

📖 There are several success stories in the book. Name them.

📖 The book felt like an iconic identity crisis, embodying in one man's story the pain of the black race. It is easier to digest because it is couched as a human story. How can the book be used to eliminate the racism it describes?

📖 When was a time in your life when you were 'the only one'? What did it feel like? How did you react to the situation?



## *Puzzle Day Workshops, Saturday, February 7th*

### 10-10:45 am **Maintain Your Brain**

The health of the brain plays a critical role in almost everything you do: thinking, feeling, remembering, working, and playing - even sleeping. The good news is that we now know there's a lot you can do to help keep your brain healthier as you age (and puzzles can be part of that!). These steps might also reduce your risk of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia. Alexandra Morris, Family Services Manager, Alzheimer's Association of Northern California & Northern Nevada, will present.

### 10:45-11:45 am **Sudoku for Kids**

Kids of all ages will enjoy this workshop, aimed at introducing Sudoku to novices and improving the skills of Sudoku beginners. The workshop will start with a pre-test, so that kids can be grouped together and taught at their level. Prizes will be given and a good time should be had by all! Presented by Dave Holmstrom, an educator with the American Institute of Mathematics and Brian Conrey, the director of the American Institute of Mathematics.

### 11-11:45 am **Sudoku Tips and Tricks**

Jim Summers, author of the Sudoku Tips column in the Morgan Hill Times and Gilroy Dispatch and frequent workshop presenter, will provide a workshop on Sudoku for those just starting out with the puzzles or those who want to improve their skills and strategies in advance of the tournament.

### 1-1:45 pm **Cryptic Crosswords**

This year, we've added a special Cryptic Crosswords bonus round to the Puzzle Day tournament schedule. This workshop aims to introduce an audience familiar with American-style crosswords to the joys of solving these British-style cryptic crosswords. Presented by cryptic crossword constructor and online cryptic crossword community leader Ganesh T S.

### 2-2:45 pm **Monday-Tuesday Crossword Solving/Constructing**

Andrea Carla Michaels is a professional namer and puzzle constructor, has been an NPR radio panelist/commentator, television writer and online humor columnist. Michaels will be presenting this workshop on constructing and solving Monday/Tuesday level "easy" puzzles, tips that will definitely come in handy in the early rounds of the tournament.

### 3-3:45 pm **Constructing and Solving the Really Tough Puzzles**

Byron Walden is an Associate Professor at Santa Clara University in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science and an acclaimed crossword puzzle constructor. While his professional research interests focus on complex analysis and discrete dynamical systems, people in the crossword world know him as the creator of challenging puzzles.

### 4-4:45 pm **Killer Sudoku**

This year, we've added a special Killer Sudoku bonus round to the Puzzle Day tournament schedule. Attend this workshop to learn about this variant of the popular game that combines elements of Sudoku and kakuro (also known as cross sums). Presented by Brian Conrey, a repeat Puzzle Day competitor and the Executive Director of the American Institute of Mathematics, one of the major sponsors of the event.

## *Puzzle Day Tournament Schedule, Sunday, February 8th*

10-11:30 Sudoku Preliminary Rounds  
 11:30-12 Killer Sudoku Bonus Round  
 12-12:30 Sudoku Final Round  
 12:30-1:30 Lunch Break, Box lunches will be available for purchase  
 1:30-3 Crossword Preliminary Rounds  
 3-3:45 Cryptic Crossword Bonus Round  
 4:00-4:30 Crossword Finals  
 4:30-5 Awards Ceremony

Check the Puzzle Day web site --  
<http://www.svpuzzle.org> --  
 for last minute updates and  
 other information about the event.

## Recent Events



Biologist Glenn R. Stewart with the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group at Long Marine Laboratory, was the guest at the Friends' speaker forum on Saturday, December 6, 2008. The audience learned details about the peregrine falcon's natural history and about careers in conservation biology. The highlight, of course, was the falcon herself who kindly posed for photo opportunities with all the kids after the presentation.



On January 17th, 2009, the Friends sponsored a performance by the Red Panda Acrobats in celebration of Chinese New Year. A packed room full of little kids and their parents were there to enjoy their fast-paced performance of exceptional acrobatic skills, traditional Chinese music, and colorful costumes.



## Library, Culture and Arts Commission (LCAC) Update

**Emily Shem-Tov, LCAC Chair**

The LCAC has been closely following the City Council's deliberations in light of the current economic situation. In December, Recreation and Community Services Department (RCSD) Director Steve Rymer sent the commission an email regarding budget reduction strategies to address the budget issues facing the City. One of the service level reductions being recommended was to eliminate staff support for the Youth Advisory Committee, the Senior Advisory Commission, and the Library, Culture, and Arts Commission. Commissioners have been discussing possible options for continuing to perform the work of the Commission without staff support, and voiced their concerns regarding their ability to remain effective. Members of the Commission attended the community meetings that were held discussing the proposals and continue to monitor the decisions and their impact on the group.

Morgan Hill Library  
660 West Main Avenue  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037-4128

Phone: 408-779-3196

[www.santaclaracountylib.org/morganhill](http://www.santaclaracountylib.org/morganhill)

**Library Hours:**

Sunday and Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 1pm - 9pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 10am - 9pm

Friday & Saturday: 10am - 6pm

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

[www.friendsmhillibrary.org](http://www.friendsmhillibrary.org)

Contact Editor Emily Shem-Tov with  
newsletter comments -  
[emily@chocolatespoon.com](mailto:emily@chocolatespoon.com)



*The purpose of the Friends of the Library is to support the services of our community library. The Friends raise thousands of dollars each year for the library, mainly through used book sales. These funds are used to purchase materials and furnishings and to provide programs that the library could not otherwise afford.*

## You're invited to a **Puzzle Party**

### Part of the 3rd Annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day

Saturday, February 7, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The Ramada Inn  
16115 Condit Road  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

**Featuring food, wine, music from the Fast Lane Trio,  
raffle prizes and puzzle fun**

with special guest **Tyler Hinman**,  
four-time American Crossword Puzzle Tournament champion featured in the documentary *Wordplay*

Tickets are \$40  
Proceeds benefit the newly formed Morgan Hill Library Foundation



**A great way to meet other puzzle fans and to support the library!**

For more information and to purchase tickets online, please visit <http://www.svpuzzle.org>  
or **RSVP to [info@svpuzzle.org](mailto:info@svpuzzle.org)** or call 408-221-9196

