

Upcoming Events

An Evening with Opera San Jose

OSJ artists perform highlights
from the 2011-2012 season
Wed, Dec 7, 2011, 7 pm

Annual Membership Meeting

December 15, 2011
6:45 business, 7:30 pm speaker

Silicon Valley Puzzle Fest

January 28-29, 2012
www.svpuzzle.org

Silicon Valley Reads

Saturday, March 10, 2012, 2pm

Annual Membership Meeting and Speakers Forum, December 15, 2011

Please join us on Thursday, December 15th, for our annual membership meeting. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Annual meeting at 6:45 pm:

- Election of officers
- Amending bylaws
- Volunteer recognition

Everyone will have a chance to win one of these books:

- *Clean Energy Nation* by Marty Cheek (October speaker)
- *This is US: The New American Family* by David Marin (December speaker)
- *The Muslim Next Door* by Sumbul Ali-Karamali (March 2012 speaker)
- *The Butterfly Mosque* by G. Willow Wilson.

2012 FMHL Officer Slate

President — Valerie Chambliss
Vice President — Teresa Stephenson
Treasurer — Marti Jurick
Secretary — Vicky Reader

Speakers Forum at 7:30 pm following Annual Meeting

Meet David Marin, author of *This is US: The New American Family*.

Message from the President

Teresa Stephenson, stephensonjr@earthlink.net

Another year and the Friends continues to be a vibrant organization. We've increased our membership, have a great group of volunteers, and strong support from the community. The bookstore, big book sales and our online book store at Amazon have provided the funds to support every request the library has made to us. In these times of budget cuts everywhere, it is a good feeling to be able to help fill in the gaps. We will complete the last Beyond Books Campaign-funded art project with the installation of the Scape Martinez mural in the teen study area. And next year we will celebrate the 5th anniversary of the library opening.

I would like to express my grateful appreciation to all the volunteers but especially to the dedicated group of people that keep the whole organization running smoothly: Karen MacDonald, volunteer coordinator; Carol O'Hare, Publicity and Speakers Forum Coordinator; Mary Ringo and Carol O'Hare, Bookstore Coordinators; Roberta Henderson, Online Booksale Coordinator; Joy Safakish, Membership Coordinator; Lisa Pampuch and Emily Shem-Tov, Newsletter Editors; Andrew Poth, Webmaster and our officers: Secretary, Valerie Chambliss, Treasurer, Gina Kightly, and Past President, Vicky Reader. Thank you to all the sorters who make order out of chaos and the members who keep the bookstore open and stocked.

I would like to encourage all our members to consider volunteering some of your time. In order to keep our organization strong, we need to have new faces and new voices to help build for the future.

I hope to see you at the annual membership meeting on December 15th. We will be offering several door prizes for attendees.

Happy holidays to all!



Librarian's Report

Peggy Tomasso, Community Librarian



The Friends sponsored two drawings in October:

- **Teen candy corn:** Teens were asked to guess how many candy corns were in the jar (the prize was the jar of candy corns). A total of 175 teens made guesses; the jar contained 470 candies.
- **All Hallow's Read:** This is an effort started by author Neil Gaiman to give away scary books for Halloween (read more about this at <http://journal.neilgaiman.com/2010/10/modest-proposal-that-doesnt-actually.html>). Approximately 156 kids and 23 teens came to the information desk, put their hand in the spooky box and picked a pumpkin that told them what they'd won (a book or other prize). 50 books were given away.



The Halloween Fun Fest was a great hit. More than 190 kids with their parents enjoyed the activities that included treat making, pumpkin decorating, pumpkin walk, face painting, and fake wound making!



A penguin ready to lead the pumpkin walk!



Pumpkin walk



Making wounds

Staff News

The library will be having a lot of retirements before the end of the year. Circulation Supervisor, **Maona Grabscheid** (pictured at right) retired on November 18th. Maona's retirement party was on November 4th and lot of fun. Thanks to the Friends who were able to attend; you helped to make the evening very special for Maona. **Margaret Rose**, Senior Clerk and long time Morgan Hill resident, will retire in December. Her last day will be December 30th. We will also be saying goodbye to **Rita Randall**, long time Reference Library Assistant, on December 30th.



Upcoming Library Programs

Children: 11/26: Family Movie Matinee: *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules*.

12/14: Reading Buddies.

The last story time of the year will be on December 11. Story time will resume on January 19.

Teen: 11/22: Teen Movie Matinee: *X-Men First Class*, 11/29 Teen Movie Matinee: *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*,

12/6: College Admissions Workshop, 12/10: Decorate Gingerbread Cookies, 12/13: Make Your Own Ornaments.

Adult: 12/7: An Evening with Opera San Jose..



New ADA table that the Friends purchased. It adjusts its height from 22" to 48" with a push of a button located on the front of the table.

Staff Profiles: Margaret Rose & Rita Randall

In this issue of the newsletter, we'd like to profile two wonderful Morgan Hill staff members who will be retiring at the end of December.



I have worked for the Santa Clara County Library at Morgan Hill since 1989. I have only worked at the Morgan Hill branch. I started working as a page, and then became a clerk and finally a senior clerk.

My favorite memory was when the new library was finally being built on Main Ave.

I will miss my coworkers, the Friends of the library and our patrons.

I'm looking forward to traveling. I want to go to England many times and on a cruise or two. I want to work on my home, volunteer at the library, and work in the Friend's book store.

Books I have just read: *Naughty in Nice* by Rhys Bowen and *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain.

I want to read James Garner's and Diane Keaton's autobiographies.

I'm reading a lot of books on nutrition. It is true that you are what you eat. It's very interesting and I am feeling better.



I have been working for the library for sixteen years. All my time here has been as a library assistant with Morgan Hill Library. My time at Morgan Hill has been one of the most enjoyable and rewarding periods of my life. The people that work at the Morgan Hill Library are the best.

The patrons have been some of the most interesting and decent people I have ever met. I cannot of course, name all of them especially all of the kids I've seen grow up but I would like to mention The Elmarsys, Mary and Farid, Charlotte Koch and Erin Jeffers, they have always been so friendly (and patient).

For reading or listening recommendations: on the light side, I suggest anything by Australian writer Kerry Greenwood. On the more serious side, anything by Albert Camus. For the spiritually leaning, *Being Good: Buddhist Ethics for Everyday Life* by Hsing Yun is very rewarding even for non-Buddhists.

When I retire, I hope to finish reading John Toland's *The Rising Sun: The Decline and Fall of the Japanese Empire*.

SCCL Mobile

Have a smart phone? Get access to the library web site and catalog wherever you are! To access the library's free mobile download, visit sccl.boopsie.com using your phone's Internet browser. iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, and Android users can obtain the application through the Apple App Store or Android Market. Search for "Santa Clara County Library" or "SCCL" to locate and download the free application.

SCCL Mobile

access the library's web site
and catalog from your mobile device



Friends of the Morgan Hill Library Speakers Forum

Meet David Marin

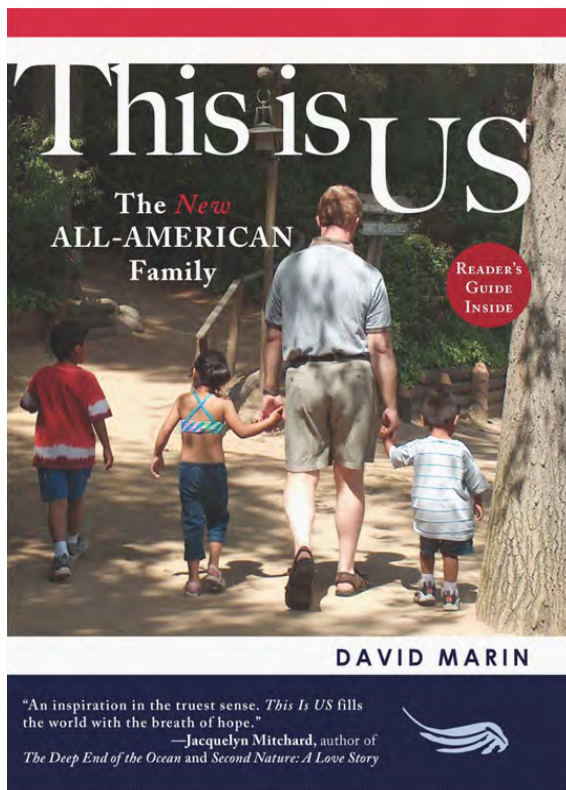
Author of

This is US: The New All-American Family



Thursday, December 15, 2011
7:30 pm

Morgan Hill Library
Program Room
660 West Main Avenue



In 2003 David Marin began a quest to adopt three abandoned Mexican-American siblings stuck in the social services system. He was in his 40s, divorced and had no experience raising kids, but he was determined to give these young children a loving home. *This is US* is their story.

Marin's heartfelt recollections will open readers' eyes, hearts, and minds to new ways of seeing adoption, the immigration debate, and just what constitutes the American family in the 21st century.

**Books available for purchase
at BookSmart and at the event.**

Marin is Vice President of Advertising for Mainstreet Media Group. He lives in Gilroy with his three children, now ages 10, 12 and 14.

For more information, go to
www.thisisus-davidmarin.com or www.friendsmhl.org.

Read an excerpt from *This is US*
in the November issue of *Reader's Digest*.



Congratulations to Andrew Poth, Friends of the Library Philanthropy Day Honoree



The Morgan Hill Community Foundation held its annual Philanthropy Day luncheon on November 10th, honoring community volunteers. Twenty-three organizations participated and this year the Friends' honoree was **Andrew Poth**, our web master. Andrew has been

an asset to our organization, quietly maintaining the web site and providing technical support when needed. Friends members Teresa Stephenson, Karen MacDonald, Carol O'Hare, Mary Ringo, Elaine Reimer, Librarian Peggy Tomasso

and Andrew's guest, Marie Lamb, were there to help celebrate. A video of the event will be made available on MHAT.

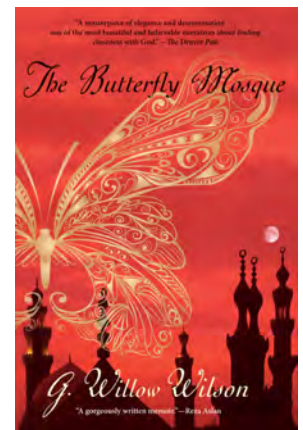


Silicon Valley Reads 2012

Silicon Valley Reads has announced the selection of two books for 2012 with the theme "Muslim and American—Two Perspectives."

The books are *The Muslim Next Door: The Qur'an, the Media, and That Veil Thing* by Sumbul Ali-Karamali and *The Butterfly Mosque* by G. Willow Wilson. There are also companion books for children with similar themes so that families can read and discuss them together.

The Friends will host Sumbul Ali-Karamali on **Saturday, March 10, 2 pm** at the library in a program co-sponsored by AAUW-Morgan Hill.



Street Art Mural for Teen Group Study Room

The Friends has commissioned San Jose artist Scape Martinez to paint a large street art mural for the teen area of the library. To get input on the design, two workshops for teens were held in September. Scape then created several concepts that were submitted to a selection committee composed of library staff, members of the Friends, local artists, teens, and the mayor. The final design is shown below. The painting is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Funds for the artwork come from money raised by the Friends 2006-2007 Beyond Books Campaign for art and furnishings for the new library.



6th Annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Fest Coming in January

Once again, it's almost time for Silicon Valley Puzzle Fest. It's an annual two-day celebration of crossword and sudoku puzzles that draws puzzle fans and experts from all over the Bay Area and beyond. The event benefits the Morgan Hill Library Foundation.

Saturday, Jan. 28, will feature workshops led by puzzle experts. This year's workshop line-up is still being finalized, but previous years have featured experts like Tyler Hinman, five-time American Crossword Puzzle Tournament champion who was featured in the film *Word Play*, and Thomas Snyder, *Wired's* Dr. Sudoku and two-time World Sudoku Champion and five-time US Puzzle Champion. We've had panels featuring published crossword puzzle creators like Byron Walden, Andrea Carla Michaels, Mark Diehl, and many others and workshops on sudoku for kids led by American Institute of Mathematics instructor Dave Holmstrom. Check the Puzzle Fest web site for updates as this year's workshop schedule is finalized.

Sunday, Jan. 29, will feature a sudoku tournament in the morning and a crossword puzzle tournament in the afternoon. The sudoku puzzles are created especially for us by Thomas Snyder. The crossword puzzles are yet-to-be-published New York Times crossword puzzles provided by New York Times puzzle editor Will Shortz. Whether you're a casual puzzler or seriously competitive, the tournaments are lots of fun and a chance to hang out with fellow puzzle fans.

Saturday's workshops are free. A \$25 donation is suggested for participants in Sunday's sudoku and crossword puzzle tournaments (\$10 is suggested for youth under 16).

Silicon Valley Puzzle Fest is held at the Morgan Hill Library. For more information about Silicon Valley Puzzle Fest, visit www.svpuzzle.org. For more information about the Morgan Hill Library Foundation, visit <http://www.mhlf.org>. For more information, or if you are interested in volunteering to help out with the event, please contact us at info@svpuzzle.org.

We hope to see you at Puzzle Fest this year!



A special thank you to Valerie Chambliss, Millicent Kellogg, and the volunteers who helped with the Friends' table at the Morgan Hill Historical Society's Holiday Boutique on November 10-13.

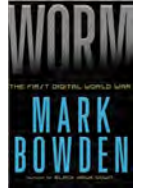


Celebrate the
5th
 Anniversary
 of the Library
July 21, 2012

Books Among Friends

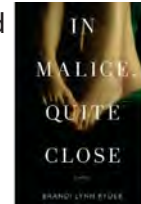
***Worm: The First Digital World War* by Mark Bowden**

I heard the author, Mark Bowden, interviewed on NPR and thought this topic sounded quite interesting. I decided to read it, even though I am not very computer literate. A lot of it went over my head, but I feel like I learned a lot about the Internet and how the Conficker worm came about and how some very smart individuals tried to track what was going on and contain it. Give it a try. You might find it quite enlightening. - *Karen MacDonald*



***In Malice, Quite Close* by Brandi Lynn Ryder**

Haunting, yet sophisticated. Unspeakable desires and priceless art. This mystery novel spans generations and includes dark secrets. Fifteen-year-old Karen Miller is from a working class family in San Francisco. Wealthy Tristan Mourault, an heir to a world-class collection of art, becomes enamored with Karen. He decides he must "rescue" her, and takes her to Devon, Washington, where they lead an opulent life. Tristan and Gisele (formally Karen) have carefully constructed a world for themselves until Gisele's young daughter stumbles upon a secret cache of paintings. Tragedy follows. A great read with dangerous manipulations and dark secrets that are kept until the final pages. - *Jan Sanders*



***Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson**

The opinionated Major Pettigrew lives alone in the English countryside. He leads a quiet, proper, British life until his brother's death sparks an unexpected friendship with Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper down the street. They form a friendship over literature and the loss of their spouses. But she is a foreigner and the community is having a hard time accepting the friendship. The friendship blossoms into something more, which causes disruption in a well-settled life, and raises a lot of eyebrows. Add to this emotional roller coaster a son, and a nephew, who do not like what is happening. This novel is about life, heart, dignity, and backbone. It's a great read. - *Jan Sanders*



***Little Bee* by Chris Cleave**

The novel is about two women, how their lives collide, and a fateful choice. One woman is a heartsick immigrant, the other is a magazine editor. The plot moves between a desolate beach in Nigeria and a home in an upscale London suburb. Cleave alternates between these two characters' points of view and the reader gets to know them well. The story is heartbreaking one moment, quirky and charming the next. It speaks of atrocities in Africa and a complex suburban life. It is a tension-filled drama with moral dilemmas that add up to a satisfying emotional read. - *Jan Sanders*



***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot**

This is a non-fiction novel about cell research that you will have a hard time putting down. In the 1940s, the world of medicine was quite different than today. Henrietta went to the hospital for cancer treatments, but could not afford to stay there. She eventually loses the fight for life and her husband and children (one of which was born while fighting the cancer) must deal with the loss. An autopsy is performed and samples are taken. Researchers had been trying to grow human cells for years, but they would only live a few days then die. But Henrietta's lived! This opened up a whole new world for medical research. But what about the family? Cell distribution centers are opened, millions of dollars are made, but the family lives in squalor. What becomes of this family who can not afford the health care that has come about from research using their mother's cells? - *Jan Sanders*



***Room* by Emma Donoghue**

Abducted at 19 years of age while attending college, kept in an 11 x11 foot room, repeatedly raped, a five-year-old son... will they ever see the outside? *Room* by Emma Donoghue is a story told by the 5 year-old son. Unconquerable love gives mother and son the strength to survive, but are their days numbered? While this story seems gruesome, it is written in such a way that the reader has hope. Since it is written from the five-year-old's point of view there is an innocence to the story. - *Jan Sanders*



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

Phone: 408-779-3196

www.santaclaracountylib.org/morganhill

Library Hours:

Sunday and Monday: Closed
Tuesday Lobby Hours: 10am - 1pm
Tuesday: 1pm - 9pm
Wednesday & Thursday: 10am - 9pm
Friday & Saturday: 10am - 6pm

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library
www.friendsmhlibrary.org

Contact Co-Editors Lisa Pampuch or
Emily Shem-Tov with newsletter comments -
lispampuch@yahoo.com or
emily@chocolatespoon.com

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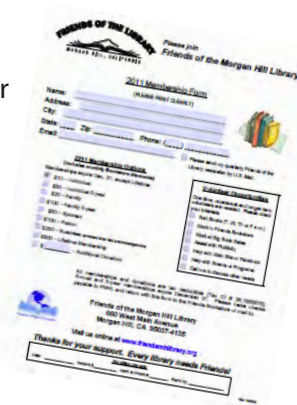


The purpose of the Friends of the Library is to support the services of our community library. The Friends raise thousands of dollars each year for the library, mainly through used book sales. These funds are used to purchase materials and furnishings and to provide programs that the library could not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

Time to Renew

Friends, it's time again to renew your annual membership: **It expires on December 31st.** Memberships are still the same low price! It's easy to renew if you're at the bookstore looking for a good read or a Christmas gift. You can get your 2012 discount card immediately! No waiting, the bookstore cashier will issue your card on the spot.

Membership forms are found on the cashier's desk in the bookstore and at the accounts desk in the main library. You can also print the form by going to our website, <http://www.friendsmhlibrary.org>, and scrolling down to third paragraph on our home page. You can also use the PayPal payment option for an online renewal. Memberships received via mail or electronically will be processed and the discount card will be in the bookstore — just ask the cashier on duty the next time you visit.



Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws

Several amendments to the Friends Bylaws have been approved by the Board and will be voted on at the annual membership meeting. Changes include a more detailed description of the purpose of the Friends, an expanded composition of the board, and how the budget is approved. The proposed amendments are listed in detail in the attached document. The current bylaws can be found on the Friends website: <http://www.friendsmhlibrary.org/bylaws.html>.

Amending the bylaws requires a two-thirds vote by members. If you have any questions, please contact Carol O'Hare, 782-9029, cbohare@garlic.com.

