Our New Year comes with new changes and resolutions and it's time to take out your 2012 membership. An individual membership is still at the incredibly low price of $10 annually, a family membership is still only $20.00.

Benefits of membership include:

- The FHML Discount Card (for half-off at Friends bookstore)
- Early admittance to our Big Book Sales
- The satisfaction in knowing you've supported our Library and our community with the quality of programs offered through the Morgan Hill Library.

If you've taken out a 2012 membership but don't have your Discount Card, please check with the cashier at the Bookstore. Cards are held there for our 5-year members, lifetime members, and mail-in/internet members and for members who did not pick up their Discount Card when they were issued the 2012 membership.

Joy Safakish – Membership Coordinator,
joysafa@yahoo.com
Volunteers Count

The Friends of the Morgan Hill Library is lucky to have such wonderful volunteers. In 2011 we had a total of 228 members. Of those members, 81 are active in our organization.

Members participate in various ways: sorting book donations, stocking, working in the bookstore, helping at special events, serving as board members and working the big book sales. They willingly give this gift of time because they believe that our Morgan Hill branch of the Santa Clara County Library is a valuable resource to our community. And I think they enjoy interacting with other Friends and library patrons who visit our store or book sales.

In 2011:
- Volunteers who worked in the bookstore logged approximately 175 hours each month.
- Volunteers put in 49 hours at the Fall Book Sale.
- In November volunteers helped a special event, the Morgan Hill Historical Society’s Holiday Boutique, for another 28 volunteer hours.
- Volunteers who sort donated books Tuesday through Friday worked about a total of 33 hours per week.

Three big book sales were held in 2011. The last sale earned $1,700 in sales and memberships.

Other special events in 2011 Where Friends participated:
- Taste of Morgan Hill
- Mushroom Mardi Gras
- Art a la Carte.

As you can see, our volunteers are a hard-working lot. Volunteers taking part in these events allow community members to meet the Friends, to see how we help our community library and to learn how they can join us if they wish.

In April all volunteers were encouraged to take one free item from the bookstore in honor of National Volunteer Month. As another way to thank our volunteers, at our Annual Membership meeting on December 15th, any volunteer who attended was eligible for several door prizes - books, of course.

Thank you to all volunteers who do so many things to make our organization run smoothly and to help raise money for services and programs at our wonderful Morgan Hill Library.

Karen MacDonald – Volunteer Coordinator, karenmacdonald@charter.net

The Morgan Hill Historical Society

Invites you to a reception for a new exhibit:
Vines, Vineyards and Vintners: The History of Wine and Our Oldest Local Wineries

Sunday, March 4, 2012
2 – 4 pm
Morgan Hill Museum at Villa Mira Monte, 17560 Monterey Road

Enjoy wines from local vintners, finger foods and sweets. The event is free, but donations to the Historical Society are always welcome.

Please RSVP by February 27 to (408) 779-5755.

Congratulations to Rosanne Macek, former Morgan Hill Community Librarian, who completed her Master in Public Administration at San Jose State in December. Rosanne is currently Director, Library Services, and City of Mountain View.
For the children
Along with the many craft programs throughout the year there were many special programs sponsored by the Friends:

- Shadow Puppet Show
- Python Ron
- Andy Z, a musical
- Daffy Dave, magician
- Hansel and Gretel
- And a holiday puppet show

I wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year. The New Year always comes with resolutions, which for me this year comes surprisingly as a book I feel compelled to read (or listen to) this year.

An interesting book came out entitled “Why Read Moby Dick?” by Nathaniel Philbrick. I listened to the book (just 2 CDs), because I have to say I have never been tempted to read Moby Dick and wanted to know why all those high school and college students are required to read it. Well Philbrick enticed me with his praise of Hawthorne’s ability to accurately and vividly portray the history of whaling and capture this time period in American history.

He also related how Melville’s life and literary career intertwined with the book (his first) and his subsequent writing. The downside of this is that now I am challenged to read Moby Dick for all the richness that Nathaniel Philbrick pointed out that I am missing if I don’t read it. Ugh!

Every year I am truly amazed by all the support the Friends provide for the library.

- Volunteers clocked over 4,931 hours during the year.
- The Friends gave the library $6,900 for the bestseller collection,
- $6,000 worth of books, CDs, & DVDs for the adult collection, and
- $4,000 for the teen collection enabling the addition of a “classics” section.

The Summer Reading Program was a great success- one of our best ever! The Friends awarded 934 books to children and 55 books for families that participated in the special Family Summer Reading Program that was directed at new parents and their babies and toddlers. 194 books were awarded to teens, and 164 adults received a coupon worth $5 in the Friends bookstore.

For teens the Friends sponsored the grand prize for the summer reading program of a Barnes and Noble Nook E-Reader, numerous craft programs such as cupcake and cookie decorating, an international candy tasting, teen graphic novel discussion group, and gift certificates for the drawing and photo contests.

For adults the Friends sponsored many great programs including: the Book Discussion Group, Great Decisions Series, Silicon Valley Reads programs for Year of Fog by Michelle Richmond, local author Marty Cheek's book reception, Opera San Jose, and a discussion and signing with author Lisa Lutz.
A Fond Farewell to Treasured Library Staff Members

Long time staff members Maona (Circulation Supervisor), Rita (Reference Library Assistant), and Margaret (Senior Library Clerk) retired this year. The staff and patrons miss them very much and wish them the very best in their new endeavors.

Getting to Know Our Library Staff Members

Hylary Locsin started working for the library in May 2002 after the teen librarian visited her senior English class at Live Oak High School on career day. She had never thought about working in the library before then, but she applied that same day. Hylary worked part-time as a page until 2006 when she was hired as a clerk.

Hylary has worked in the library’s systems office until she was close to finishing her masters degree in librarianship in March 2011, when she started working as an extra-help librarian, staffing the information desk and presenting many dynamic children’s programs, including story times, puppet shows and craft programs.

**Why did I decide to become a librarian?** My undergraduate degree is in nutrition, and I was originally planning on becoming a dietitian, but after working in a hospital I decided it wasn’t for me. I got married in November 2008 and after discussions with Maona and much reflection, I decided to get my master’s to become a librarian. I received my MLIS in 2011.

**Why do I like working at the Morgan Hill Library?** I have worked at the MH Library since I was 17, and the people there are like a second family. I went to high school in Morgan Hill, and my husband teaches at Britton and Live Oak. I hope to continue working in the South County area because I identify with the people and appreciate what a special place it is.

**A few random facts:** I was born in Renton, Washington but grew up in Beaverton, Oregon. I moved to California when I was 15. My husband Jason and I are high school sweethearts and got engaged on New Year’s Eve 2006. I enjoy doing a young adult book review blog. I’ve studied complementary and alternative healthcare and love alternative and Eastern medicine. I have a Maine Coon cat, Normund, and a Rat Terrier/Dachshund mix, Chaz, both rescues from the San Martin Animal Shelter. I love to cook and read, and my favorite food is sushi.
Winter Book SALE!

Saturday
February 11, 2012
10 am to 3 pm

All books $1 or less
$3 per bag from 2-3 pm

Fiction, non-fiction, hardcover and paperbacks
Children’s books and small paperbacks
(many romance and science fiction) only 10¢

Members Only Preview
Saturday, February 11, 9 – 10 am
(before sale opens to the public, memberships available at the door)
“Muslim and American”
Silicon Valley Reads Events at the Morgan Hill Library

Sumbul Ali-Karamali, author of The Muslim Next Door: The Qur’an, the Media, and that Veil Thing, in conversation with journalist Marty Cheek, discussing Islam and growing up Muslim in Southern California.

Saturday, March 10, 1:00 pm
Books available at BookSmart and at the event at 10% discount.

Sheba Karim, author of Skunk Girl, a young adult novel about being a teenage Muslim in small town America.

Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 pm

“Getting to Know American Muslims and Their Faith” with Ismael Nass-Duce of the Islamic Network Group.

Wednesday, March 28, 6:00 pm

Silicon Valley Reads Presented by: Morgan Hill Events Co-sponsored by:

For information on other events, visit www.siliconvalleyreads.org
FMHL President’s Message and New Officers/Directors

Happy New Year! And thank you to all new and renewing Friends for your tireless support of our great library. I am Valerie Chambliss, FMHL Board president for 2012, coming off of serving 2 years as FMHL secretary. Please join me in thanking the outgoing Board for the wonderful work they did under the guidance of Teresa Stephenson, 2011 president. Thank you to all officers who continue to serve in one capacity or another, and to Gina Kightly, ably passing on the baton to the new team of treasurers.

Here is the new slate of Officers and Directors

President: Valerie Chambliss
Vice-President: Teresa Stephenson
Secretary: Vicky Reader
Treasurers: Marti Jurick, assisted by Lionel Mattos and Marilyn Jimenez
Bookstore: Mary Ringo
Volunteers: Karen MacDonald
Membership: Joy Safakish
Newsletter: Yvonne Duckett
Book Sales: Carol O’Hare
Publicity: Jan Sanders
Non-board positions include:
Online Sales: Roberta Henderson
Web manager: Andrew Poth

We are still in need of someone to take on the position of Program Coordinator.
Thank you to everyone serving on the 2012 Board; I look forward to a great year working with you all!

Valerie Chambliss – President, vjchambliss@gmail.com

FMHL Budget and Library Requests

The FMHL Board passed the budget for 2012 at the January meeting. We have projected an income of $54,800 from book sales, bookstore sales, online sales, and membership dues. The board approved a requested from Peggy Tomasso for $54,100 for the library.

$  2,500 for Adult and General Programs
$  8,000 for Adult and Teen Bestsellers
$  1,000 for Book Club
$ 10,000 for Children’s Programs
$  4,500 for Teen Programs
$  4,000 for Furniture, Equipment and Building improvements
$ 16,000 for Library Materials
$  7,900 for Spanish-speaking Librarian (part-time)
$  200 for Staff Appreciation and Development

Peggy expressed her deepest thanks to all the Friends for their many hours of volunteer work and for helping the library serve the public through funding programs and services. These are budget highlights; for a copy of the complete budget, please ask a Board officer.
Come in. Have a seat.

This is the terrific computer table was purchased by the Friends to accommodate all types of wheelchairs. With the push of a button located on the front of the table, the height can be adjusted from 22” to 48”.

Thanks to the Friends for making our library more accessible to all patrons.

The Morgan Hill Library will be 5 years old in July and we’re planning a party! We’ll need cake. We’ll need entertainment. We’ll need decorations and balloons. We’ll need your help! Please contact Yvonne Duckett to share your ideas and be part of the festivities.
yduckett@yahoo.com