



The Bookworm Bulletin

Events of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

Winter 2021

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For 2022

Winter Book Sale
Saturday
February 5, 2022

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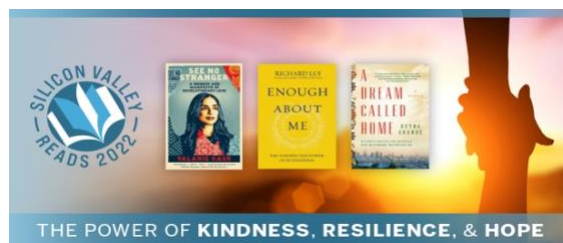
SILICON VALLEY READS 2022 (siliconvalleyreads.org)

FMHL recently received a thank you from the Silicon Valley Reads director for our ongoing support.

In fact, we Friends have supported SVR since it started in 2003 as a community engagement program run by the Santa Clara County Library District, the Santa Clara County Office of Education, and the San Jose Public Library.

Last year, the theme of "Connecting" brought over 12,000 people together. The 2022 theme is "The Power of Kindness, Resilience & Hope." The featured books were selected to help encourage and motivate people to lean on one another for support moving forward during the continuing effects of COVID-19.

The adult titles are *See No Stranger* by Valarie Kaur, *Enough About Me* by Richard Lu, and *A Dream Called Home* by Reyna Grande. Companion books for children/teens have also been selected.



Three highly-reviewed fiction titles are recommended to appeal to fiction readers: *The Girl With the Louding Voice* by Abi Daré, *The Authenticity Project* by Clare Pooley, and *The Story of Arthur Truluv* by Elizabeth Berg.

The breadth and depth of selections will enable creative and fun talks and events to appeal to everyone. A combination of in-person and virtual activities enables inclusive participation. **The SVR virtual kickoff with the three adult authors is scheduled for Thursday, January 27th.** It will be moderated by Sal Pizarro of the Mercury News and hosted by the Commonwealth Club of Silicon Valley. Visit the SVR website in early January for an update and schedule of all that is happening during Silicon Valley Reads 2022.

Notes from the President

Vicky Reader, vevreader@gmail.com



Update - While we Friends are not back to full operations yet, we are thankful for the strides made during the year. We initially adapted to pandemic challenges by holding safe outdoor sales. We revised our materials donation guidelines to better reflect the interests of our patrons and started accepting donated books safely outside by appointment. Then we welcomed patrons to our “new and improved” Bookstore with dedicated volunteers both behind-the-scenes and customer-facing.

The Bookstore is now open 26 hours a week from Monday to Saturday. We also have returned to accepting books and other usable materials at the Bookstore or at the Circulation Desk when the store is closed. We hope you continue to visit, come to our periodic special sales, and browse offerings at <http://www.amazon.com/shops/MHLibraryFriends> our online storefront.

Board News - Special thanks to **Ric Smith** for his service as VP since 2014. We are grateful for the work former president **Teresa Stephenson** and Ric did working closely on the now completed multi-year project to remodel our library space. Teresa cited Ric’s expertise as being invaluable during design and construction meetings and when the new space needed to be configured. Ric also handled the storage of our inventory, as “shed master.” No longer serving as VP, but thankfully he continues volunteering in the Bookstore.



Ric Smith (left) Diane Martin (right) with Valerie Chambliss

We also send our appreciation to **Diane Martin**, former secretary, who had to resign when she moved out of CA. Diane was instrumental in setting up the post-construction space, as well as in planning and volunteering at the outdoor sales.

Another shout out goes to Membership Coordinator **Donna Cotich**, who handcrafted masks and other items she sold specifically to benefit the Friends. Her generosity amounts to about \$2500, which helps us greatly. Donna’s masks are on display in the Bookstore.

Looking Ahead - The Friends depend on many people to successfully achieve our mission. Thank YOU for your support and interest in what we do as Morgan Hill Library lovers! We look forward to serving the library and the community in the coming year. Your input and feedback is always welcome – info@friendsmhlibrary.org.

Membership Update

Donna Cotich, Membership, djcotich@yahoo.com

Our expanded bookstore is now open every day the library is, so please visit us. We are very proud of our new space.

While you are browsing for a new read, take the time to renew your Friends of the Library membership for 2022. It's quick and easy. If your phone, address and email haven't changed since last year, all we need on the form is your name; write "same" for the address; add "renewal" on the top; and pay your membership fee. You will receive a 2022 discount card that provides a 50% discount for one item each month throughout the year. Don't forget to use your December 2021 discount on any book or a new mask!

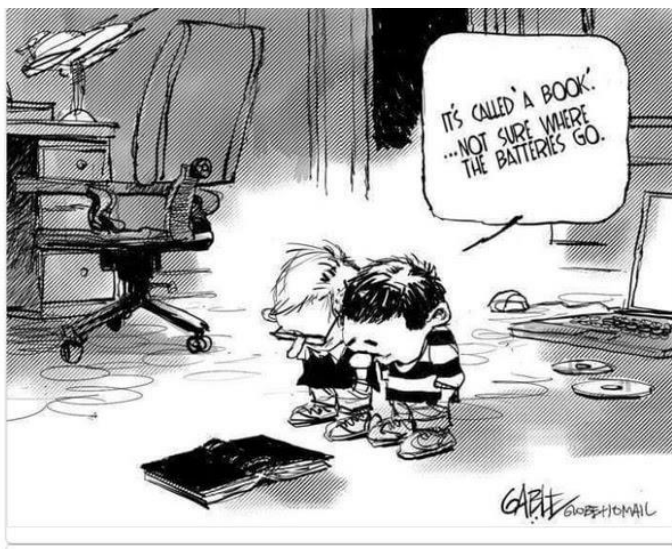
If joining for the first time, you will need to complete the entire membership form and will receive two 50% discount cards, one for the rest of this year and a 2022 card.

Although the cost of goods and services has increased, our membership fees remain the same: \$10 Individual, \$20 Family, \$50 Sponsor, and \$100 Patron, annually, or a five-year membership for \$50 Individual, \$100 Family. Lifetime memberships are \$500. A Business level \$250 annual membership includes a FMHL website acknowledgement.

You can also renew your membership online. Visit our website at http://www.friendsmhl.org/help_the_friends.html. Download a membership form, and pay with PayPal or a credit card. Then pick up your discount card in the bookstore.

All memberships and donations are tax deductible for the calendar year in which they are made. FMHL is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with an all-volunteer staff.

Support your library by joining the Friends.



Book Sales in 2022

Saturday, February 5
Saturday, June 4
Saturday, October 8

We hope to be back to
regular indoor sales in
the Program Room.
Stay tuned for details.

Library News

Heather Geddes, Community Librarian hgeddes@sccl.org

Happy Holiday Season Friends!

"You can always count on the library to be there for the community. The Friends will be there for the Library" – anonymous quote

The past 18 months have come with many hurdles and much learning. As we move into this holiday season, I am feeling incredibly grateful for your support. Your mobilization this past year to remodel the store and sort area, host outdoor book sales, and find innovative ways to accept donations has provided us with ongoing support for library services amidst the pandemic. I am humbled by your dedication and enthusiasm for our library.



Thanks to the Friends, our library was able to once again provide books to children during our Summer Reading Program, host our Lunch at the Library program (8000+ meals served), and engage in outreach around the community. Our latest initiative has been the installation of a Little Library at Galvan Park, which encourages literacy and provides over 100 youth with access to books. The Friends provided the stipend for the artist who did the mural and covered the cost of the Little Library.



Joins us for Silicon Valley Reads 2022....our theme is the Power of Kindness, Resilience, & Hope. Our featured titles offer meaningful collection of stories to motivate and inspire our community. <https://sccl.org/svr/>

Library Expansion and Re-Naming Ceremony

I am thrilled to announce that after several years of dedicated work, we celebrated our library's new expanded children's space and the re-naming of the Morgan Hill Steve Tate Library on Oct 9. The event was a huge success with many community members and dignitaries acknowledging the work Mayor Tate, the Friends, and the City have done in support of our library. We also had a scavenger hunt for attendees to view the many artworks that were funded by the Friends Beyond Books Campaign. The Friends outdoor book sale that day added to the festivities.

I hope you are all able to enter into this holiday season with a good book to read and share with friends and family.



Heather Geddes and Carol O'Hare



Larry Carr, Former Mayor Steve Tate, Heather, Mayor Rich Constantine

2021 Gift of Reading

Share the love of books with local children and support 2021 Gift of Reading. BookSmart is again partnering with the Friends of the Library and AAUW to continue this tradition of providing books for underserved children in Morgan Hill and San Martin.

Members are encouraged to donate **new and like-new** books for ages pre-K to 14 years, books that you would want your own children (or grandchildren) to receive. BookSmart is offering a 20% discount on books purchased for the program. Cash donations are also welcome. A collection barrel is located at BookSmart, 421 Vineyard Town Center.

The deadline to donate is Friday, December 12.

If you would like to volunteer to sort books, please contact Carol O'Hare, cbohare@garlic.com.

Gift of Reading
Morgan Hill

BookSmart
Community Advantage
Literacy • Art • Community

Donate by
12/12/2021

2021
DONATE
TODAY!

Donate new or like-new children's books for ages 0-14. You can donate used but like-new books at **BookSmart** or buy new books at **BookSmart** and receive a **20% discount** for any books purchased for **Booksmart's** Gift of Reading "book barrel"!

Please Take Donations to BookSmart
421 Vineyard Town Center.

Sponsored by: BookSmart Community Advantage - Friends of the Morgan Hill Library, , Morgan Hill Life, and AAUW-Morgan Hill.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2022



President: Vicky Reader is a longtime volunteer with the Friends, having held the positions of president, secretary, newsletter editor and Speakers Forum coordinator in the past. She has now served as president during the difficult pandemic years of 2020 and 2021. She is also on the board of the Santa Clara County Library District Foundation.



Vice President: Joy Safakish has volunteered with the Friends for many years, serving as membership coordinator and trainer of bookstore volunteers. As VP she will coordinate programs once the library resumes such events. She also volunteers with AAUW as chair of the Tech Trek program and was named their 2021 Philanthropy Honoree.



Treasurer: Sherrie Wren has been on the Friends' board as treasurer for the past two years and is a regular bookstore cashier. She is also membership co-VP with AAUW Morgan Hill and is active with the MH Community Garden.



Secretary: Kristine Gagliardi started volunteering with the Friends at the outdoor book sales. After working in private industry, she founded The Radiosurgery Society and was its executive director. She continues to serve on its board.

This year due to continued Covid -19 restrictions, the Friends annual meeting, usually held in December to elect new officers, will take place electronically.

Cast your vote for the Slate of Officers by email or phone no later than December 15.

- By email: Put FMHL Vote in the subject.
In the email body, state **YES** or **NO** for the Slate of Officers
Send to nomination committee chair Carol O'Hare, cbohare@garlic.com
- By phone: Call Carol at 408-782-9029. Leave a message with your name and **YES** or **NO**



Wonderful Volunteers!

Volunteer Coordinator

Karen MacDonald karenmacdmhca@gmail.com

As the library is returning to more normal, pre-Covid hours, volunteers are coming back to work in the bookstore. There is at least one three-hour shift each day the library is open, and some days have multiple shifts filled. Our experienced volunteers are greatly appreciated, and we are grateful to have gained some new cashiers: Patty Crone, Mirna Skracic, Christie Thomas, and Fran Weiss. We have a great corps of regulars who have signed up for specific shifts: once or twice a month, or even once a week. We also have a wonderful group of subs who fill in as needed. Still, more volunteers would be welcome so the store can be open additional hours.

Our book sorters are busier, too, with increased donations, now that books can be brought directly to the store or front desk. You may never see these volunteers, as sorters work hidden back in the nether regions of the staff area. We are thankful that they faithfully come in each week to organize donations: separating out books for the store, big book sales, Better World Books, recycling, or garbage! They also look up non-fiction online, price books, fill sort room shelves, and stock the store and Bargain Books. We couldn't manage without them.

Other volunteers help out with book sales, doing the heavy lifting of setting up and cleaning up after the sale. All of these jobs are important and help support our library. If you would like to join the Friends volunteers, please contact Karen.

Treasurer's Report

Sherrie Wren twowrens10@gmail.com

The Friends of the Library total assets as of mid-November 2021 are \$115,000.

In this fiscal year, we have spent \$7,100 on the combined remodel of the Bookstore and the sorting area, less than budgeted.

Our total income to date is \$31,000 from the store, which was closed for about half the year, small outdoor book sales, and online sales. We have supported the Library with \$13,000 for their limited programming.

Since the beginning of November, the weekly income has approached the pre-Covid Bookstore income average of \$500-\$600 per week. We hope that this is a sign that we are starting to see things gradually return to more normal activity, both for the Friends and for the Library.

The Friends are grateful to the many volunteers who have masked up and stepped forward to make the book sales possible during these unusual times.