

AMONG FRIENDS

Friends of the San Carlos Library – www.scfol.org



Message from the President

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On December 14th the Friends hosted the holiday celebration at the library all day and into the evening. During the day we dispensed holiday greetings and many kinds of treats to library patrons. In the evening we joined the crowd that attended the beautiful Celtic Christmas concert and made sure that treats were part of that celebration as well.

As ever, both events were supported by several of our wonderful volunteers. The daytime participants were Jan Smith, Margaret Haneberg, Sylvia Hughes, Tony Farndale and Alyce Bishop. Alyce Bishop (who has limitless energy!) came back to help with the concert. Many thanks to all of you.

The Friends have recently provided funding for an electronic message board that will be installed behind the courtesy desk in the near future. This will provide a convenient tool for sharing announcements, program notices and other forms of communication. It is a single screen that is easy to see and read as well as update. Board member Jan Smith initiated and completed this project. She worked with JC Escalante to determine the equipment that was needed and then pursued an economical option through the manager of our local Best Buy. They did a great job.

In the Fall newsletter we let you know that a library renovation was under consideration. We are pleased to report that the project has been approved by the San Carlos City Council and funded by the City of San Carlos, San Mateo County Library and the San Carlos Friends of the Library. You will be hearing much more from us about this in the next few months as the budgets, plans and schedules are finalized. Many of you may have already noticed the architectural drawings that are hanging in the library along with carpet design samples. This is a very exciting project that will bring a much needed update to our well-loved but worn library.

Our first renovation event, a Chamber of Commerce Mixer, will be held at the library on Wed., Feb. 8 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friends of the Library members are invited to attend. Please see the invitation on Page 5 for details.



Dr. Books' List of Overlooked Classics

You know the title, but have you read the book?

Lord Chesterfield's Letters to His Son.

Lord Chesterfield wrote incessantly to his (natural) son, showering him with sage advice on how to prepare for his future position in society. ["You will be of the House of Commons as soon as you are of age."] But Lord Chesterfield was a true 18th century man. His writings fell out of fashion for 200 years or so. Victorians considered him too worldly and cynical. Later readers resented his politely selfish creed. In the 21st century, however, we may call him insightful and pragmatic. Except that his style of writing is far too elegant, he could make a fortune producing best sellers of advice for business people and politicians, maintaining that to succeed one must be well bred and know how to please.

Here are his views on flattery:

"If you would gain the affection and friendship of particular people, whether men or women, endeavour to find out their predominant excellence, if they have one, and their prevailing weakness which everybody has; and do justice to the one, and

something more than justice to the other. Men have various objects in which they may excel, or at least would be thought to excel; and though they love to hear justice done to them, where they know that they excel, yet they are most and best flattered upon those points where they wish to excel, and are yet are doubtful whether they do or not. As for example: Cardinal Richelieu, who was undoubtedly the ablest statesman of this time, or perhaps of any other, had the idle vanity of wishing to be thought the best poet, too. Those, therefore, who flattered skillfully, said little to him of his abilities in state affairs...but the incense which they gave him—the smoke of which they knew would turn his head in their favour—was as a *bel esprit* and a poet. Why? Because he was sure of one excellency, and distrustful as to the other.

"You will easily discover every man's prevailing vanity by observing his favourite topic of conversation; for every man talks most of what he has most a mind to be thought to excel in. Touch him but there, and you touch

him to the quick...

"Do not mistake me, and think I mean to recommend to you abject and criminal flattery; no; flatter nobody's vices or crimes: on the contrary, abhor and discourage them. But there is no living in the world without a complaisant indulgence for people's weaknesses, and innocent, though ridiculous, vanities. If a man has a mind to be though wiser, and a woman handsomer, than they really are, their error is a comfortable one to themselves, and an innocent one with regard to other people; and I would rather make them my friends by indulging them in it, than my enemies by endeavouring (and that to no purpose) to undeceive them."



Children's Program Schedule

Family Concert with Charity Kahn - Saturday, January 21 at 11:00 a.m.

Rock 'n roll with children's musician Charity Kahn! A fun, interactive program of music, movement and more. Great for all ages.

Fratello Marionettes - Tuesday, 01/24/12 at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.

San Carlos Library, in Conjunction with San Carlos Week of the Family, Presents the Fratello Marionettes.

- ▶ The Vaudeville Follies from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Carnival of the Animals from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m.

More events
are listed
at the San
Carlos
Library
website at
www.smcl.org

'The Vaudeville Follies' is a marionette variety show presented in the spirit of the old time music hall. 'Carnival of the Animals' presents three classic storybook fairy tales- the 'Three Little Pigs', the 'Tortoise and the Hare', and the 'Ugly Duckling'. All ages welcome.

Lunar New Year's With Children's Author Oliver Chin - Tuesday, 02/14/12 at 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate the Lunar New Year's with Oliver Chin. Oliver reads from his new book, *Year of the Dragon*, the 7th adventure in his annual "Tales from the Chinese Zodiac" series. Meet the new hero Dominic and the other animals, then create and take home a dragon of your own. For all ages.

Papermaking Workshop with the Museum of Craft and Folk Art - Thursday, 2/23/12 from 4 - 5:30 p.m.

The [Museum of Craft and Folk Art](http://www.museumofcraftandfolkart.org) will present a culture-infused hands-on enrichment workshop – everything is provided. There will be a slide show, artifacts to see and a hands-on activity. For school-age children 5 and up.

Library Adult Programs

Start the New Year on the right foot by signing up for one or more of the stimulating classes, clubs and special programs in the library. Many are underwritten by the Friends. For more information, contact librarian Rhea Bradley at 591-0341, ext. 237, or Bradley@smcl.org.

JANUARY 2012

- ▶ **Tai Chi** - every Monday, Friday, and Saturday morning in the library 10-11 a.m.
- ▶ **"Computer Coach"** - every Monday, 10:30 a.m.-noon
- ▶ **"Knitting with Arnie"** - meets every Wednesday, 6:30-9 p.m.
- ▶ **San Carlos Quilting Club** - meets the second Thursday of every month from 10 am- Noon. All ages and skill levels are welcome.
- ▶ **Daytime Book Club** - Monday, Jan. 9, 10 a.m. We will discuss *The Piano Tuner* by Daniel Mason.
- ▶ **"Lawyers in the Library"** - Tuesday, Jan. 10, 7-9 p.m. Call 650-591-0341, ext. 222, for an appointment.
- ▶ **Non-Fiction Book Club** - Thursday, Jan. 12, 10:15 a.m. We will discuss *The Orientalist: Solving the Mystery of a Strange and Dangerous Life* by Tom Reiss.
- ▶ ***NEW!* Read-Along Shakespeare** - Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7-9 p.m. - Gather with other fans of Shakespeare to read his works. Please bring a copy of the play if you have one, as only a few library copies may be available. This month we will read *The Tempest*.
- ▶ **Beginning Internet Class** - Thursday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m. *What is the Internet?* Learn all about web browsers, search engines, and Internet safety. Call 591-0341, ext. 222, to register.

Library Adult Programs – Cont.

- ▶ **Facebook** - Thursday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m. Learn your way around the popular social networking site. Create an account, edit your profile, and reconnect with classmates, family and friends.
- ▶ **Pre-Diabetes: A Wakeup Call** - Monday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m., presented by Judy Farnsworth, R.D., CDE, PAMF Diabetes Educators, Nutrition Services. Please attend this lecture to learn about pre-diabetes, how it is diagnosed and important lifestyle strategies for self-management.
- ▶ **Mystery Book Club** - Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m. We will discuss *Back on Murder* by J. Mark Bertrand.
- ▶ **Beauty, Wealth and Power: The Art of Adornment** - Monday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m. This docent lecture/slideshow will feature photos of the Asian Art Museum's vast collection of jewelry and artwork to describe the art of adornment as social signifiers through time and culture.

FEBRUARY 2012

- ▶ **Tai Chi** - every Monday, Friday, and Saturday morning in the library 10-11 a.m.
- ▶ **"Computer Coach"** - every Monday morning, 10:30 a.m. – Noon
- ▶ **"Knitting with Arnie"** - every Wednesday 6:30-9 p.m.
- ▶ **San Carlos Quilting Club**- meets the second Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. – Noon. All ages and skill levels are welcome.
- ▶ **Daytime Book Club** - Monday, Feb. 6, 10 a.m. - We will discuss *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet* by David Mitchell.
- ▶ **Masters of Venice Docent Lecture Program** - Currently on exhibit until Feb.12, 2012, at the De Young Museum, *Masters of Venice: Renaissance Painters of Passion and Power* is an exclusive presentation of 50 paintings by Venetian painters Titian, Giorgione, Veronese, Tintoretto, Mantegna, and more, primarily from the sixteenth century, all on loan from the Gemaldegalerie of the Kunshistorisches Museum in Vienna. This docent lecture/slideshow features rare examples of works, representing a range of Venetian accomplishments in renaissance-era painting.
- ▶ **Non-Fiction Book Club** - Thursday, February 9, 10:15 a.m.
- ▶ **Poetry in Clay: Korean Buncheong Ceramics** - Monday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m. "Whimsical," "rustic," "direct," "fresh," "audacious," "contemporary" – these are some of the qualities that have been attributed to the type of Korean ceramics known as *buncheong*. If you missed the exhibition, *Poetry in Clay*, at the Asian Arts Museum or want to learn more, come to the docent lecture/slideshow that features works from the Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art in Seoul, Korea.
- ▶ **"Lawyers in the Library"** - Tuesday, Feb. 14, 7-9 p.m. Call 650-591-0341, ext. 222, for an appointment.
- ▶ **NEW! Read-Along Shakespeare** - Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7-9 p.m. Gather with other fans of Shakespeare to read his works. Please bring a copy of the play if you have one, as only a few library copies may be available.
- ▶ **Beginning Internet Class** – Thursday, February 16, 7 p.m. - *What is the Internet?* Learn all about web browsers, search engines, and Internet safety. Call 591-0341, ext. 222, to register.
- ▶ **Flickr: Online Photo Management and Sharing** - Thursday, Feb.16, 7 p.m. - Learn how to open a new account, upload photos, organize and edit uploaded photos, add description to photos, perform simple searches, print, and save the photos you like.
- ▶ **Mystery Book Club** - Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m. We will discuss *Elegy for April* by Benjamin Black.
- ▶ **The Facts about Losing Weight with Weight Loss Surgery** - Monday, Feb. 27, 7 p.m. - lecture by John Feng, M.D., FACS, PAMF Bariatric & General Surgery. Join us for a discussion that will focus on the different types of weight loss surgery. The discussion will include health issues related to excess weight, pros and cons of surgery, and weight loss surgery results.

From the Book Shop

To start off the New Year I would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who have worked so diligently this past year in the shop. Many hours have been spent, sorting in the cage, carting books upstairs, stocking shelves and organizing the storage area. The shop has been very successful because of all your efforts. Also, thanks to all the people who shop and purchase books, CD's, etc...

You all contribute to the overall success and we couldn't have done without you. We will be offering special sales in preparation for the updating of the library due to begin this summer. So stop in and check out the bargains.

Josie Grossmann
Book Shop Chair

Third Sunday Book Sale in the Annex



February 19 at the Friends of the Library Third Sunday Book Sale the theme was "Romance is in the Air."

Fedora Chen, pictured above, is the key volunteer in our Romance section. On March 18th come by from 1pm-4pm to see what special books Fedora has bundled with "love" for the March Third Sunday book Sale.

Chamber of Commerce Mixer – Be There!

The Friends plan to host the San Carlos Chamber of Commerce monthly "Mixer" from 5:30-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 8, in the library. It will be the first of several events scheduled by the Friends to bring attention to the planned library "makeover."

According to Karen Clapper, chair of the FOL Fund-Raising Committee, plans for the remodel and samples of carpet and upholstery will be on display.

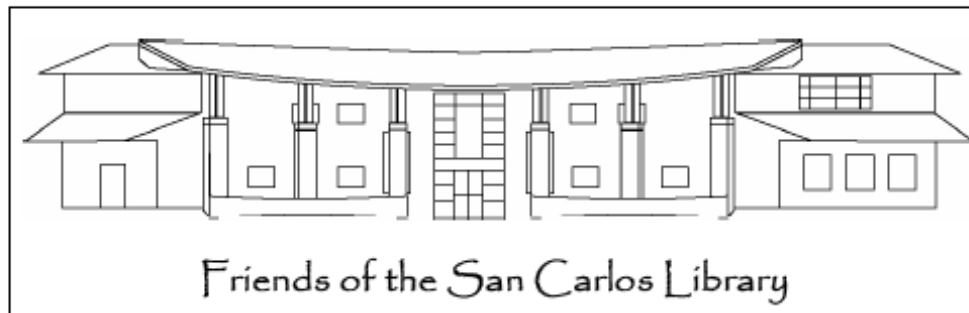
Chamber members represent members of the local business community. If you are a Friend of the Library and/or a member of the chamber, we encourage you to drop in to this event, not only to promote your own business, but to learn the scope of the makeover and how you can become involved.



Friends' Board/ Book Sale Helpers Need Members – Would You Help?

In late spring, when the board elects its officers, slots for board officers as well as board members typically become available. We hope you will consider being a part of the Friends' Board, especially at this exciting time, when the library plans so many physical changes. Ideally, board members will head teams, such as Hospitality, Publicity, Newsletters, and so on. Please let Janice Raymond, president, know if you would like information on how to become more involved than a dues-paying Friend.

Helaine Haughney collects names of persons who are willing to help at the monthly book sales. She needs a few more good people—persons to straighten shelves, hand out paper bags, staff the will-call area and/or cashier. Please phone her at 592-2517 if you would be willing to take a three-hour shift on the third Sunday of the month.



Thanks so much for staying a Friend.

You may want to pass the form below along to a friend so we can keep it going.

Renew your membership or sign up for 2012 now!

Please return to the circulation desk or mail to:

Friends of the Library - Membership

610 Elm Street

San Carlos CA 94070

Friends of the San Carlos Library Membership Form

Current period runs through December 31, 2012.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

___ **Yes, I would prefer to receive my newsletter via email.**

Type of Donations:

___ **Individual \$15.00 per year**

___ **Family \$30.00 per year**

___ **Business Member \$45.00 annually**

___ **Senior (65+) \$10.00 annually**

___ **Employer matching gift donation**

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