



# Among Friends

Morro Bay Friends of the Library newsletter

February 2008

Volume 27, Edition 1

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*To stimulate public support of the Morro Bay Branch of the San Luis Obispo County Library by fostering and establishing closer relations between the library and the citizens and organizations of Morro Bay, by focusing public attention on library services, facilities and needs and by soliciting gifts, endowments and bequests to provide financial aid for adequate facilities and needs.*

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## President's Report

by Karen Robert

Welcome to the New Year! Last year, my President's Reports focused primarily on hoping to encourage you to become a volunteer in the Friends organization. I also wanted you to learn more about the many important volunteers who have graciously supported our Morro Bay Library throughout the years. Although volunteers will be a continuing need for the Friends, this year we have a new focus that seeks your attention and support.

The Morro Bay Library, although a county operation, leases the library building from the City of Morro Bay. Our library lease needs to be renegotiated with the city of Morro Bay before it expires in 2010. For several years, the Friends have been working cooperatively with the city and county to come up with the best library for our community. *The most proactive way for us to have successful negotiations with the city is to know that our community fully supports having a library in our town.* Yes, **you** can help us with these negotiations in a very meaningful way.

We have created some options and opportunities to hear from you about our library's importance to you and our community and encourage everyone reading this to be involved in the process. **We want to maintain our library in the city of Morro Bay, and we would like your feedback on how best to do this.**

Some of you may have had the wonderful experience of attending our first Countywide Library Summit on November 3, 2007 in which we got to explore the library of the future and hear about innovative programs happening in San Luis Obispo County. We want to continue these conversations

with you and also want to reach out to those of you who were unable to attend this pivotal event.

One way to do this is have you and your friends attend one of our "After the Summit" Community Meetings where you will have the chance to discuss our Morro Bay Library of the Future – "Where are we now, and Where do we go from here?" These free events will be held on Wednesday, **February 13 from 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** and Tuesday, **March 18 from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.** at the Morro Bay Library Program Room. You will have the opportunity to share openly what excites you about our library – what concerns you – what library service should look like in the city of Morro Bay today – in 10 years – and how you would describe your ideal visit to the library 10 years from now.

Another way you can help us is to complete the survey included in this newsletter. Your survey responses will give us an idea of what your expectations are about library service, open hours, needs and hopes for our library now and in the future. Won't you take a moment and complete this survey and return it to the library: **625 Harbor St., Morro Bay, CA 93442** or come to one of our community meetings advertised above?

You are also welcome to bring your lunch and come to our open Friends Board meetings (see calendar of events for dates). If you have any questions about Friends projects, getting involved, volunteering, our ongoing Wednesdays programs, these community meetings or the survey please do not hesitate to contact me at 772.9268 or [pres@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org](mailto:pres@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org) or visit our website at [www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org](http://www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org) Whatever you decide, please always know that we truly appreciate your continued support and patronage of our library.



**Among Friends** is the quarterly newsletter for the Morro Bay Friends of the Library. It is distributed to all members. Circulation is approximately 400. Additional information about the Friends is available at <http://www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org/> or call 772-9268.

We encourage submissions of library-related material. **The deadline for publication is the 8th of each month of publication—January, April, July and October.** Articles are to be submitted to Robert Davis in any of the following formats: email to [slobike@yahoo.com](mailto:slobike@yahoo.com) either in text or as attachments in Word or WordPerfect; CD in Word or WordPerfect, or in written form legible for transcription. Nothing will be accepted verbally. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject material. Each article is the opinion of its author and does not necessarily represent the opinion or endorsement of the Friends or the Library or the editors.

### Friends Board of Directors

Karen Robert, President	772-9268	<a href="mailto:pres@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">pres@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Joan Decker, Vice-pres...	771-8323	<a href="mailto:vp@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">vp@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Nancy Burke, Secretary.....	772-1735	<a href="mailto:secy@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">secy@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Ric Deschler, Treasurer.....	772-9244	<a href="mailto:treasurer@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">treasurer@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Susan McElhinney, Programs.....	772-7877	<a href="mailto:programs@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">programs@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Betty Forsythe, Membership.....	772-0792	<a href="mailto:members@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">members@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Laurie Allen, Ways and Means...	772-0389	<a href="mailto:booksales@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">booksales@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Robert Davis, Newsletter	772-0874	<a href="mailto:news@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">news@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>

### Friends Support

Rick Gilligan, Website Coordinator	748-5805	<a href="mailto:webmaster@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">webmaster@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Joan Petersen, Volunteer Coordinator	772-2604	<a href="mailto:volunteers@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org">volunteers@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org</a>
Jude Long, <b>Branch Manager</b>	772-6394	<a href="mailto:jl原因@slolibrary.org">jl原因@slolibrary.org</a>

### Local Authors at the Morro Bay Library

We are fortunate to have local authors joining us Wednesdays at the Morro Bay Library Program Room from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. First up is Richard Taylor on February 6 who wrote ***“the Haunting of Cambria”*** a novel of love, redemption and second chances. You can read the first chapter at this site - [www.hauntingofcambria.com](http://www.hauntingofcambria.com).

Berta Parrish, a college instructor for over 30 years, joins us on February 27 providing a free workshop using the principles in her book, ***“Wise Woman’s Way: A Guide to Growing Older with Purpose and Passion.”***

College professor Marvin Sosna, comes on March 5 to discuss his book ***“Brandon’s Trail”*** a story of Brandon,

age 10 and his sister Samantha, age 3 and their parents who hike the 212 miles of the John Muir Trail.

All these events are free!

Because each author brings his or her own unique life experiences and love of writing to share with us, we appreciate their talents and willingness to join us at the Morro Bay Library. Come and show your support!

For more information go to [www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org](http://www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org) or call 772-9268.

#### Library Hours

Mon - closed	Tue - 11am-8pm
Wed-Fri - 11am-5pm	Sat - 11am-4pm
Sundays - Closed	805-772-2694

## Upcoming Events

All events occur at the Morro Bay Library Program Room unless otherwise noted.



### **Reoccurring Every Month!**

- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10:00am-12:00pm - Readers' Community Book Discussion Group
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays 10:00am-12:00 pm - Current Topics Discussion Group
- 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 10:00am-12:00pm - Celebration and Appreciation of Literature through local author readings, special presentations and other literary activities.(details below)

### **January, 2008**

- 16 **Bud Mercer** author of Tripping the Light Fantastic will share his vaudeville experiences 10:00 am -12:00 pm as part of Readers' Community
- 18 Friends - Board of Directors Meeting – 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Open to the Public @ Morro Bay Community Center – Senior Lounge – Bring your Lunch
- 23 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays - **Catherine Ryan Hyde** author of Paying It Forward and other delightful and meaningful reads will share her experiences as a writer

### **February**

- 6 **Richard Taylor** author of The Haunting of Cambria will join us from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. as part of Readers' Community
- 9 Book Sale (9-10am Members Only) 10am-2pm Sale; 1-2pm \$3 bag sale
- 13 Current Topics Discussion Group – What excites you about the Morro Bay Library? What concerns you? What should library service look like in the city of Morro Bay today? In 10 years? How would you describe your ideal visit to the library in Morro Bay 10 years from now?
- 20 Readers' Community discusses Down to a Soundless Sea by Thomas Steinbeck
- 27 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays - **Berta Parrish**, local author presents her Wisewoman's Way: A Guide to Growing Older with Purpose and Passion Workshop

### **March**

- 5 **Marvin Sosna** author of Brandon's Trail will join us from 10:00 am-12:00 pm as part of our Readers' Community
- 12 Current Topics Discussion Group – check lobby or website for topic
- 14 Friends – Board of Directors Meeting – 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Open to the Public – Bring your lunch
- 18 Focus Group 6:30-8pm - Repeat of Feb 13–What excites you about the Morro Bay Library? What concerns you? What should library service look like in the city of Morro Bay today? In 10 years? How would you describe your ideal visit to the library in Morro Bay 10 years from now?
- 19 Readers' Community discusses About Alice by Calvin Trillin
- 26 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays – Local Author **Barrie Bartulski** shares his experiences through his book The Red Schwinn Bicycle: A Sentimental Journey

### **April**

- 2 Readers' Community discusses Swan by Frances Mayes
- 9 Current Topics Discussion Group – check lobby or website for topic
- 13-19 National Library Week
- 16 Readers' Community discusses The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
- 23 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays – Local authors **Dave Congalton & Charlotte Alexander** share their book When Your Pet Outlives You
- 27-3 National Volunteer Week - Pat yourself on the back
- 30 Library and Friends Volunteer Recognition Event – 9:00-11:00am Brunch. Reservations Required



## Book Sale Report

by Laurie Allen

2007 was an exciting year for the Book Sale volunteers. Thanks to the continuing generosity of Morro Bay residents in donating books to us, we raised a record amount of money, while having a record amount of fun at the Book Sales!

2008 will be a year of continuity and of change. Our February 9th sale is coming up next month, and we expect it to be a good one. We have quite a few special books, in addition to the large number of good quality fiction and non-fiction items. In fact, it is more usual than not to have too many books for comfortable browsing.

This leads us to the plan approved by the Board to look into the possibility of moving the sale to the Vet's Hall. Although the sale has always been held at the Library, there are some good reasons for moving it.

First, the weather will not always be good on sale day, making putting books and magazines outside impossible. This will make an already crowded area even worse. During our November 2007 sale the rain started as we were finishing, but we won't always be that lucky.

Second, having a larger space with wider aisles would mean easier movement for both the able-bodied and disabled. It would mean that we could arrange the books in more meaningful categories, making it more fun for browsers.

Third, it would give us the opportunity to include other fund-raising events along with the book sale. For instance, it would be great to add a bake

sale, and possibly a collectibles sale as well. It simply gives us more options.

In other news, we continue to look for one or two volunteers to take charge of a Friends booth at the Saturday afternoon Farmer's Market in Morro Bay. This once-a-week event has been a great way to sell books and to make people aware of our Library at the same time. If you (and a friend?) are interested in volunteering for this special job, please let me know. We might try doing it first in the summer, and if we can get enough volunteers, no one would have to do it every week.

Another new idea we are trying is selling some of our books on the Internet. Ric (Friends Treasurer) and I have tried a few special-priced items that didn't sell at the sales, and we have had some luck with this. It shows that the Morro Bay Friends will go anywhere (and everywhere) to support our Library!

Finally, if you are interested in volunteering at the book sales, please give Joan Petersen a call at 772-2604. Our crew has a lot of fun while we work at setting up, selling, and taking down the event. Come join us!

**"After the Summit"** Community Meetings - Let's discuss our Morro Bay Library of the future - Where are we now, and where do we go from here?

These free events will be held on Wednesday, February 13 from 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and Tuesday, March 18 from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Morro Bay Library Program, 625 Harbor St., Morro Bay.

Sponsored by the Morro Bay Friends of the Library. For more information contact 772.9268

## 2007 Financial Wrap-Up

by Ric Deschler – Treasurer

The Morro Bay Friends of the Library continued to work hard to raise money to support the Morro Bay Branch Library during 2007. The Friends raised over \$27,000 through a variety of fund raising activities. The largest portion (\$10,817) came from the hard work involved with the Quarterly Book Sales. It may sound like the work is only done four times a year but volunteers are working daily. They clean, sort, price, and store the thousands of donated books and magazines that flow into the library throughout the year. Bravo to Mo Bradley, Laurie Allen, Irene Toomey, Joan Petersen and all of the many volunteers who staff the book room and book sales.

In between the Quarterly Book Sales, the volunteers keep the book shelf and magazine rack in the library lobby stocked with items so that you can purchase your favorite books and magazines at low prices throughout the year. Again, this dedicated crew raised over \$4,600 keeping books readily available for you and supporting your library.

The Friends just wouldn't be a successful organization if it were not for its membership.

The Board of Directors keeps the membership dues low so that as many people as possible may participate and be a part of this grand organization. \$1,701 was generated from memberships. Memberships include the \$2 Junior members, \$5 Individual, \$10 Family, \$25 Business, and the \$100 Individual Lifetime memberships. Many thanks to all of our members for supporting the Friends with their memberships.

Cash donations were over \$2,400 and

funds raised from donated property (other than books) generated around \$4,000. We thank everyone who donates

funds and items that go to support the Morro Bay Branch Library. Your efforts are appreciated.

The Friends function to support the needs of the Library.

Each year the branch manager, librarian Jude Long, provides the Friends with a list of financial needs that go unmet by your tax dollars. During 2007, the Friends provided nearly \$12,000 in requested financial assistance. These needs rise and fall depending on state and county budgets and the individual needs of the Morro Bay branch. We plan to be there whenever the need arises so that you, the citizens, will always have access to a free and modern library.

The Friends spent around \$3,700 to run and maintain the Morro Bay Friends of the Library, Inc. We are a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization.

During 2007, approximately 76% of expenditures were given as direct support of the library while approximately 24% were used for Friends administrative expenses. This varies yearly depending on the needs and requests of the library.

**Remember, the next Quarterly Book Sale will be Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.** Come out and support the Friends supporting the Morro Bay Branch Library!



### Remembering Loved Ones

By Ric Deschler

Every year people wish to remember and appreciate people that mean something special to him or her. Often this occurs when a loved one passes away and other times it happens when a person simply wants to show recognition. The Friends accept financial donations to honor these people. These funds are made available to the library and the branch manager purchases appropriate materials with the funds. Then the loved one is recognized with a bookplate in the front of the book or materials.

Here is a listing of the persons remembered with donations during 2007—

#### In Memory of

Judi Horner  
Nancy Victor  
Grace Melton  
Barbara Isbell

#### In Gratitude to

Susan McElhinney  
2007 FOL Board

We thank all of the donors for honoring their loved ones and friends with a generous contribution to support the Morro Bay Library. For more information about remembering loved ones, check out [www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org](http://www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org) or call Ric Deschler at 772-9244.



## Librarian's Report

by Jude Long

### New Computer System

Unveiled October 10<sup>th</sup>, our new computer system failed to perform satisfactorily. Despite careful planning and training, the CarIX system operates extremely slowly, with many inaccuracies and it continues to be undependable.

Library Staff and Library Administration share your frustration and impatience. We apologize for the numerous and continuing problems and inconveniences you may have experienced. Your great concerns, your many phone calls, letters and conversations, prove how much you, as library customers and taxpayers, CARE ABOUT YOUR LIBRARY.

SLO Library Director Brian Reynolds, along with Black Gold System Directors, continues to negotiate with company officials and to push for a system that meets the high standards of our customers. Library staff are available for help and support in searching and requesting the materials you need. Please call the library (772-6394) or ask for help at the desk.

Questions? – Comments? Contact Brian Reynolds at 781-5785 or breynolds@slolibrary.org.

### I Want To See You At Our Upcoming Community Meetings!

*YOU WILL WANT TO BE A PART OF OUR VISION DOCUMENT!*

Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. – Noon in the Library Program Room

Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Library Program Room

We want our Morro Bay Library to matter to the community and to be more viable for future users. The world is changing faster and faster and our customers need libraries to keep up with their world. Libraries must transform to serve upcoming generations and interface with new technology. We are no longer dusty archives. Morro Bay has a neighborhood-style library for popular reading with easy access to titles throughout the U.S.

- How can we meet the future needs of Morro Bay residents?
- What qualities are unique to the Morro Bay community that need to be reflected and/or retained in the Library?
- What will create the Morro Bay Library as a destination?

Please attend to help guide the written Vision Plan for the Morro Bay Library.

If you cannot attend, you may forward comments by email or mail to:

Jude Long jlong@slolibrary.org  
625 Harbor St.  
Morro Bay, CA 93442



Pictured at left in a February, 2007, meeting of the Advisory/Vision committee are Jude Long, Joe Woods, Brian Reynolds, Betty Forsythe, Barbara Riddell, and Helen Hileman.

Photo courtesy of Ric Deschler

**FROM YOUR FOL BOOK SALE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**

Joan Petersen



**D**o volunteers **REALLY** make a difference in successful Morro Bay Friends of the Library book sales? **YOU BET THEY DO!**

Our volunteers seem to work together like a “well-oiled machine,” showing enthusiasm and pride in getting all the necessary jobs done before and during the Saturday sales. The following volunteers have been part of this “machine” for the past several sales: **Laurie Allen**, currently the book sale director; **Mo Bradley**, who held that post two years before Laurie; **Jane Appley**; **Marilyn Baty**; **M.J. Basti**; **May Booker**; **Pat Boyd**; **Jane Brechler**; **Nancy Burke**; **Bill Carlson**; **Mary Clapp**; **Curt Coley**; **Nancy Coon**; **Mary Cowitz**; **Connie Davies**; **Gail and Robert Davis**; **Sandra Dease**; **Joan Decker**; **Ric Deschler**, book sale director before Mo, storage room organizer along with Laurie and FOL treasurer; **Betty Forsythe**; **Rick Gilligan**; **Thelma Gillmore**; **Bernice Glinski**; **Betty Gong**; **Jean Goodrich**; **William Graham**; **Helen Hileman**; **Pat Howell**; **Robert Hyde** and friend ; **Josie**; **Nancy and Garry Johnson**; **Marianne Kent**; **Heather Lucio**; **Tim Loughman**; **Bev Maul**; **Nancy McFadden**; **Julie and Mack McGonagill**; **Dotelyn Mendez**; **Lynda Merrill**; **Betty Olson**; **Marlene Peter**; **Joan and Harvey Petersen**; **Liz Price**; **Barbara Riddell**; **Karen Robert**; **Susan Sears**; **Donna Stoll**; **Irene and Tony Toomey**; **Ellen Verodi**; **Jacque Vogt**; **Carole Wallace**; **Jean White**; **Pat Winstanley** and **Leabah Winter**. Thanks for a job well done! (My apologies if your name has been inadvertently omitted).

Since the last book sale, several new names have been added to the volunteer list. If you are interested in adding your name to this prestigious list, please contact Joan Petersen at [jphp@charter.net](mailto:jphp@charter.net) or leave your name and contact number with a staff member at the Morro Bay Library. You, too, will make a difference in the upcoming book sales!

**Newsletter Advertising**

**A**ttention Business Owners—Are you a library lover? The Friends of Morro Bay Library are giving you the opportunity to advertise your product or service to other Friends Members. Each Business Member receives one free business card ad and each additional ad is \$15 per newsletter. You can encourage your business neighbors to participate as well. Even non-members of the Friends are welcome at only \$40 per issue. For more information, please call Betty Forsythe at 805-772-0792.



**ONE FREE CHILDREN'S BOOK WITH MEMBERSHIP!**

**Junior Membership Application**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of parent** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return with a \$2.00 payment to  
Morro Bay Friends of the Library  
625 Harbor Street  
Morro Bay CA 93442

\*Child is entitled to one free children's book at any Friends of the Library Book Sale. One free book total per membership. Must present Junior membership card at checkout.

# friends members

get your friends to join!



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL**

Morro Bay Friends of the Library  
625 Harbor Street, Morro Bay CA 93442

**Membership:**

- New
- Renewal

**DUES (tax deductible)**

- Individual \$5/year
- Family \$10/year
- Business \$25/year
- Lifetime \$100

**Volunteers are at the heart of the library's success. If you would like to be involved, please indicate your interests(s):**

- Children's programs
- Newsletter
- Shelving books
- Programs
- Book Sale
- Membership
- Finance
- Other (specify)
- Ways & Means - Fund Raising

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



**Morro Bay Friends of the Library**  
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**Morro Bay CA 93442**

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