

February 2024 Newsletter



The chilly winds do blow, but the skies are blue in our fortunate neck of the woods. Count your blessings, for folks I know in Ohio and Pennsylvania are shivering in temps below zero some days.

So, it's relatively easy for the Moorpark Friends of the Library to be out and about as they gear up for the new year's projects.

First among them is the planning for **THE BIG SHOW** – the second annual “Night of International Dance and Culture.” Last year was close to a sellout and was blessed with sponsorship donations, making this a premier event for us financially and socially. Make sure to calendar the date and time, March 16 at 7 p.m., for more of the same fun for the whole family!

Then, get prepared for, yes, our own 2024 elections! The Nominating Committee will be contacting you in March for nominations for President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Friends' Board of Directors. In addition, while not elected, there are many other opportunities to contribute as members of the board in our exciting future, as we continue to support our current library and watch and plan as the new library takes its beautiful shape on High Street. Once the three executive officers are elected, continuing and new board members and committees are appointed. From personal experience of more than ten years, I can tell you that involvement with this group is a challenging and satisfying job. Get on “board” now to help guide the Friends toward our expanded future!

Additionally, see inside for details on a new project that's easy and fun. Tell your story or that of someone you know (with permission) about how libraries change lives.

Finally, did you spend any time, as a non-member of the board, or a bookstore worker, assisting with a **Friends of the Library** activity? We are tallying hours for 2023; even a few hours are important in demonstrating the value of volunteer hours for our non-profit status, even something like attending the Members Appreciation and General Meeting. Here's to a fantastic 2024 with our Moorpark Friends of the Library members!

Rosalie Barili
President, Moorpark Friends of the Library



News from Moorpark's "Biggest Little Bookstore"

Thank you to those of you that donate your books to our "Biggest Little Bookstore," it truly is what keeps us going. We welcome books in sellable condition; we do not want, and neither does anyone else, books that are in very bad shape: dirty, torn, written in, dog chewed, water damaged, or moldy. Unfortunately, we cannot accept encyclopedias, magazines, textbooks, "Dummies" books, or Music CDs.

There are two book sales upcoming in February!

- In honor of Valentine's Day, we have a "Sweetheart of a Deal" for you. From February 10 -17, we will have romance books on sale for \$0.25 each, or fill a bag for \$1.
- Upcoming Parking Lot sale at the library on Saturday, February 24, starting at 9 a.m. There will be adult fiction, children and teen books, some vintage books and some nonfiction books of various genres. By 1 p.m., the sale will be moved to the library porch and continue there for an additional week. As usual, bags of books will be \$5, but only \$4 for you, a member of The Moorpark Friends of the Library.

We had our first Silent Auction at the beginning of January and the winning bidder for two vintage books was Susan Salmore. Thank you to Susan for her generous bid and to all who participated! Everyone will be sent an email before the next book auction.

The nonfiction section of our bookstore has something for everyone. There are books about new methods of water wise gardening, home improvement, art, crafts, family issues, biographies and memoirs, history with many civil war books, cookbooks, books about old Hollywood, old cars, and even old mummies. Stop by soon and see what interests you!

~Diana Fowler

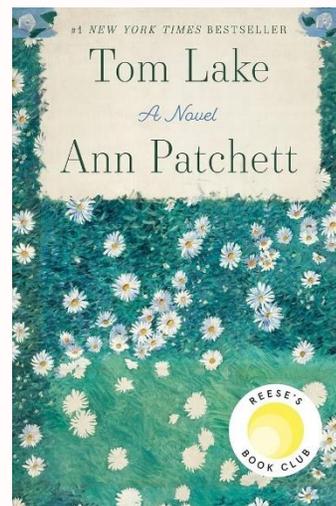
What Are You Reading?

Tom Lake (2023) by Ann Patchett

In the Spring of 2020, Lara's three daughters return to the family's orchard in Northern Michigan. While picking cherries, they beg their mother to tell them the story of Peter Duke, a famous actor with whom she shared both a stage and a romance years before at a theater company called Tom Lake. As Lara recalls the past, her daughters examine their own lives and their relationship with their mother, and are forced to reframe their understanding of the world they thought they knew.

This is a sweet story, much of it based around a theater production of *Our Town*, which I've never seen. This book explores tight bonds, frayed relationships, and moves along without any full-scale tragedy or catastrophic upheavals. It was nice to travel with Lara down memory lane.

~Teri Glazier



“Letters from Santa” another huge success!

The Moorpark Friends of the Library offered their 3rd annual fundraiser titled “Letters from Santa.” For a donation to the Moorpark Friends of the Library, children received a letter from Santa and included with the letter were holiday stickers and coupons for free items. In addition, there was a link to a YouTube video of Mrs. Claus reading *The Night Before Christmas* and a raffle ticket providing an opportunity to win a visit from Santa himself!

This fundraiser was another huge success and the letters from Santa were enjoyed by the lucky children who received them. Many local parents, grandparents and other kid-loving folks gifted children with a package that included a letter addressed to them from Santa, holiday stickers, coupons for books from the MFOTL bookstore and treats from generous local merchants: 7-Eleven, Ubatuba Acai, Coaches Ice Cream, and Coffee a la Mode.

A highlight of the event was our reindeer/car caravan to the winning family’s home on December 16. Santa (aka Robert Perez), Mrs. Claus (aka Rosalie Barili) and some of Santa’s elves brought joy to the winning child and gave out gifts. Santa and the Friends of the Library look forward to more fun with “Letters from Santa” 2024. Enjoy the pictures of the most recent family to receive a visit from Santa!

~Linda Goble



Mark Your Calendars!

Come join the fun at the 2nd annual MFOTL "Night of International Dance and Culture." Tickets are on sale now on our website. We had a full house last year so hurry and get your tickets ASAP. Don't miss this amazing toe-tapping event!

~Lori Preciado

THE MOORPARK FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY PRESENTS

NIGHT *OF* INTERNATIONAL DANCE & CULTURE

YOU'RE INVITED TO A NIGHT OF TRAVEL THROUGH DANCE
WITH PERFORMANCES BY...

KA HALE HULA

BOLLYWOOD BEYONDANCING

OXNARD COLLEGE BALLET FOLKLORICO

..... and more

7:00 PM
SATURDAY
MARCH 16, 2024

HIGH STREET ARTS CENTER
45 E. HIGH STREET
MOORPARK

\$20

GENERAL

\$15

SENIORS &
CHILDREN 12
AND UNDER

Purchase Tickets

At the Moorpark Library with cash or check; or online via PayPal on our website (mfotl.com) at the Event Page (Upcoming Events) with a \$2.00 processing fee added per ticket, no later than **Friday, March 15th**.

At the event door with cash or check; or credit card (tap-to-pay only, plus \$2.00 per ticket processing fee).

PROCEEDS FROM THE EVENT BENEFIT THE MANY PROGRAMS
OFFERED BY THE MOORPARK CITY LIBRARY.



Libraries for a Better Life

In 250 words or less, write your story or that of someone you know*, describing how being able to access books or technology at a library was **life-changing**. Was the library card like gold in one's pocket, the ticket to an education unavailable elsewhere? Was this little card like magic, for being able to get a whole bag of books for free? Did a librarian (usually the "reference" librarian in the old days) seem like the smartest person in the world? And you wanted to know all that stuff, too? How did the technology in a modern library help find a job, or obtain quality-of-life assistance? Was learning in a library stress-free (no judgments, no tests 😊) and just plain fun?

Write the story and submit it to me at rosaladyone@gmail.com. The story will be published in the MFOTL April newsletter. The best three will be selected by an MFOTL committee and prizes awarded at the June Members Appreciation Social and MFOTL general meeting.

*If a living person, permission must be certified by that person.

PS: Coincidentally, just the other morning I experienced a small example of this. Having finished breakfast out, enjoying my coffee and my (library) book, the young man bussing my table commented about my reading and said how much he loves reading books, and how he finds so many interesting ones, which help him to know more about the wider world. He said that he started reading everything he could as a little boy, confessing that, early in the morning, he would nick his neighbor's newspaper, carefully reading it then just as carefully refolding it and placing it back on his neighbor's porch. While not endorsing this (lamentable) behavior, it certainly demonstrated a certain ingenuity in his quest for learning. He doesn't do that anymore, with access to books, newspapers and magazines legitimately at the library.

This story is not intended as an entry in our contest, just an interesting serendipity just after I submitted the above announcement.

~Rosalie Barili

Volunteers Wanted!

We invite your energy and commitment of time to fulfill our mission of supporting the library and its programs. For a better idea of what we do, and to discover your special interest, you are welcome to attend a board meeting. For further information, contact us at

mfotlibrary@gmail.com to select a date from the following upcoming 2024 meeting dates:

March 19
May 21
July 16
September 17
November 19



February and March Library Events!

Children Programs:

Lego Robotics – Saturday, February 17, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover ([Register here](#)) – Friday, February 9 – Saturday, February 10

Sunshine Storytime – Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Reading Buddies – Tuesdays, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Teen Programs:

Comic Book Club – Mondays, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Grades 6-8 – February 26

Grades 9-12 – March 4

Adult Programs:

Book Club for Adults – second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

February 12 – *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi

Read It & Eat It – second Saturday of the month, 2 p.m.

February 10 – Moroccan

Genre Book Club – fourth Thursday of the month, 6 p.m.

February 22 – *Love in the Time of Serial Killers* by Alicia Thompson (romance)

International Libraries Tour – First Stop: The United Kingdom

Travel with us around the globe as we check out all the wonderful libraries the world has to offer! Our first stop is The Bodleian Libraries in the United Kingdom that support the University of Oxford. The principal University library, The Bodleian, has been a library of legal deposit for over 400 years and is one of the oldest libraries in Europe. It was first opened to scholars in 1602 and incorporates an earlier library built in the 15th century to house books donated by Humfrey, Duke of Gloucester, which included his priceless collection of more than 281 manuscripts. At present, the group of 26 libraries hold more than 13 million printed items, over 80,000 e-journals, rare books and manuscripts, classical papyri, maps, music, art, and printed ephemera (items expected to have short term popularity or usefulness). The Bodleian Libraries are the largest academic library service in the UK and one of the largest library services in Europe. The libraries also serve as a key part of Oxford's cultural community with exciting public exhibitions and events to engage the communities (<https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>). Stayed tuned for more amazing international libraries!



~Eleanor LaBarbera



Moorpark Friends of the Library Membership

So grateful to our Friends for their kind support!

Benefactor (\$500+ donation)

Rosalie Barili ~ Linda Goble ~ Nicki Partain ~ Joe Tedder

Premier (\$100+ donation)

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