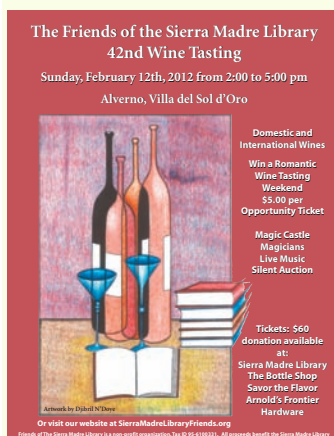


## Friends of the Sierra Madre Library 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting Coming Up



This year's annual Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Wine Tasting will be held on Sunday, February 12, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Alverno Villa. Chair of the Wine Tasting, Sue Levoe, is excited about the change in time for she feels that an afternoon event will lend itself to more leisurely strolling about the Alverno Villa gardens while enjoying fine wine and delectable hors d'oeuvres. Several vintners are already working with Bill Sullivan of The Bottle Shop to decide what wines will be offered. Sierra Madre restaurant owners are excited that their fare will be featured at the event and are planning appetizers and desserts that will showcase their talents.

Silent Auction chair for the event, Sharon Murphy, says that this year's auction will feature some exceptional items. These include: jewelry; wine tastings and tours; theater tickets; gourmet dinners; art work; Turf Club at Santa Anita; Disneyland tickets; Rose Parade tickets; wine fridge; Temecula B&B; children's birthday party at the Sierra Madre Fire Department; Universal Studios tour; personal chef dinner for 6; SMPD ride along;

fine wines and Paso Robles rental and wine tasting. In addition to the auction, there will be a raffle for a weekend wine tasting in Paso Robles, a prize valued at more than \$1,000 (raffle ticket holders need not be present to win).

Tickets to the Wine Tasting are \$60 and raffle tickets are \$5 each. Both can be purchased at the Sierra Madre Library, the Bottle Shop, Arnold's Frontier Hardware, and Savor the Flavor. Proceeds from the Wine Tasting benefit the Sierra Madre Library.

### President's Message

February is a very special month for the Friends because of our Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser. Chair Sue Levoe promises the Sunday afternoon event will be the best ever so please purchase those tickets. Enjoy sipping fine wines and tasting the best foods from Sierra Madre restaurants with all your friends and neighbors. Not only is this the highlight of the social season in town, but also a major fundraiser for the Library. What a leisurely and delightful way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Hope to see and meet many of you at this 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting event.

Last year 2011, we announced that we had lost three very dear 'Friends' – former Trustee **Eph Konigsberg**, former Director at Large **Shirley McGillicuddy** and former President and Recording Secretary **Sylvia Bolle Ryan**. The Library and Friends were very fortunate to have had their support and commitment for many years. They will be missed!

Please remember that without you, the Friends would be unable to support the ongoing needs of the Library and its many programs and services.

Darlene Traxler

### Third Thursday Book Club

In February the club will discuss Sierra Madre's 2012 One Book One City selection, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. These classic "who-dunnit" stories introduced the cerebral, clever, and acutely observant Sherlock Holmes and his loyal assistant Dr. Watson, who became the most celebrated crime-fighting duo in literary history.



March's selection is *We Had It So Good*, by Linda Grant. The novel, which links the moral and cultural changes of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, follows the lives of baby boomers who meet at Oxford University during the 1960s. The principal character is Stephen Newman, an American who marries Andrea, a British citizen, in order to avoid the draft and remain in England. The couple moves to London where they pursue careers, raise children, and become a middle-class success story. As they age, the characters begin to reflect on their lives and whether they truly fulfilled their youthful ambition—to make a difference in the world.

The club meets every third Thursday of the month at 11:00 a.m. in the Library Reference Room. A schedule of upcoming selections is available at the Library Service Desk and on the website: [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us). Funded by the Friends.

### Book Sale

The next Best Used Book Sale will be held Friday, Feb. 3rd, 3:00-7:00 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 4th, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the basement and parking lot at the rear of the Library. Come to stock up on good reads for a rainy day: newer fiction and nonfiction on a variety of subjects. Coffee table books, art books, children's books and cookbooks will be featured inside the basement. We also have a large collection of collectible titles, including vintage Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew books. \$1.00 Bargain books and paperbacks will be outside in the parking lot (half price after 1:30 p.m. Saturday).

We'll be setting up a Bargain Table in the library February 13th-18th, which will include Gardening and Travel books as well as a great collection of Mysteries and Adult Fiction. Children's and Teen titles will also be for sale. All books are only \$1.00 each.

### Partners

Thank you to the following for renewing their annual pledge to our Partner's Program:

Clem and Nina Bartolai	Partner Level
Polly Bonnett	Partner Level
Phyllis Chapman	Partner Level
Dick and Laurie Cooper	Partner Level
Stuart and Elaine McPherson	Silver Level
Catriona Shafer & Gurdon Miller	Silver Level

Welcome to Carolyn Thomas, our new Director of Library Services, and her husband, David, to the Partner Level.

Many thanks to all of you for your continued support.



### Library's Free Parent/Child Workshops

Sierra Madre Public Library's latest five-week Parent/Child Workshop for families with children ages three and younger will feature noted resource professionals from the community. Each workshop session will feature a different aspect of parenting,

including early literacy, speech, hearing and language development, child development, nutrition, music, play, and health.

The popular workshop series, which will take place at the Library on consecutive Wednesday evenings: February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., will be interactive and will include toys, crafts, books and play in addition to discussions of parenting issues and concerns. **Enrollment is free, but in-person pre-registration at the Library is required to ensure a spot in the program.**

This project is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

For more information, please call Meegan Tosh, Youth Services Librarian at (626) 355-7186.

### Carolyn Grantham Gravatte: Featured Artist at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Fair

Alison Snow, chair of the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Art Fair is excited to announce that our featured artist is Carolyn Grantham Gravatte, a long-time resident and painter of Sierra Madre. Carolyn studied at Otis Art Institute and received early training with master Fine Art painter Theo Heep of Germany and Sculpture Instructor Elizabeth Johnson of Monrovia. An accredited teacher of Sculpture, Drawing and Painting, Gravatte taught Portrait and Figure Sculpture and Oil Painting for many years, establishing the Monrovia Sculpture Workshop. She has been an artist for over fifty years.

After Carolyn ceased teaching sculpturing classes that required heavy lifting loading and unloading kilns, her husband Harry encouraged her to go back to painting just for fun, just for the love of it. She painted neighbors houses, our mountains and Eaton Canyon. "I thoroughly knew the classic way of painting", she said," but wanted to paint more impressionistically, more spontaneously, more passionately, if you will. One year I found the perfect teacher at our very own Art Fair and I do use some of those techniques to this day."



Gravatte has been painting a series of canvases featuring 'site specific' scenes around and about Sierra Madre. The first in the Sierra Madre series was "The Old North Church" painted in 2004. Using oils, she paints in

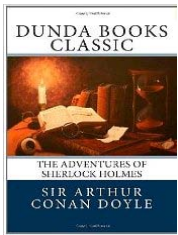
a Contemporary Traditional style with a touch of Impressionism - making pencil sketches, studies and painting on site - with the exception of huge canvases which are painted in the studio. She is currently painting a canvas for us for our Art Fair. The site was chosen, with much thought, by the Art Committee as a treasured view of our town and our mountain "Jones Peak." While Ms. Gravatte has been working on location, the painting has been enthusiastically embraced by folks strolling by and the Friends are proud to be able to exhibit the piece at our Fiftieth Annual Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Art Fair.

The Art Fair will take place in Memorial Park on Saturday, May 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and will feature works by artists and craftsmen in a wide variety of media, live music, food vendors, a children's art project, and a silent auction. Proceeds from the Art Fair benefit the Sierra Madre Library.

### Library Display Case

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting will be featured from February 1-13. Sherlock Holmes, the subject of our 2012 One Book One City, will "take over the case" from February 14-29.

## One Book One City Events



*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, our 2012 One Book One City selection will be honored during February at the Library. All OBOC events are free and open to the public.

A “Mystery Contest” drawing will kick off the month-long program on February 1. Everyone who reads the stories and is able to answer three questions will be entered in a drawing to be held at the Library on Wednesday, February 1. The winner will receive the elegant two-volume set of *The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes: The Complete Short Stories*, the most lavishly illustrated edition of the Holmes tales ever produced, edited by Leslie S. Klinger.

On Thursday, February 2, at 7:30 p.m., Leslie S. Klinger will present “An Evening with Sherlock Holmes, Hosted by Les Klinger.” Mr. Klinger, considered one of the world’s foremost authorities on Sherlock Holmes, is the editor of *The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes*, published by W. W. Norton in 2004 and 2005, winner of the Edgar Award for Best Critical/Biographical Work and nominated for every other major award in the mystery genre. Mr. Klinger, along with author Laurie R. King, also edited the recently released book *A Study In Sherlock: Stories Inspired by the Holmes Canon*, in which eighteen superstar modern mystery authors provide fascinating, thrilling, and original perspectives on Sherlock Holmes. This book will be available for purchase and autographing after the talk.

On Thursday, February 9, at 7:30 p.m., Sisters in Crime will present a panel discussion on “Holmes’ Influence on Detective Fiction.” The panel will include Amnon Kabatchnik, known for his books on crime drama for stage and screen; Michael Mallory, Sherlock Holmes expert and author; and Naomi Hirahara, prize-winning mystery writer. Tammy Kaehler, author of the Kate Reilly car racing mysteries, will moderate.

On Thursday, February 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon, the Sierra Madre Public Library will host a book discussion of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* at the Library during the Library’s monthly “Third Thursday” book group.

In the evening of Thursday, February 16, at 7:30, Catherine Addé will present “Sherlock Holmes’ London: An Illustrated Talk,” an armchair tour of London in the footsteps of the world’s greatest detective. Catherine is a travel industry veteran and lived in London while working on her Master’s in Tourism Management. She is a long-time Sierra Madre resident, and serves on the Library Board of Trustees.

On Saturday, February 25, at 5:00 p.m., a special screening of a classic Sherlock Holmes movie will take place at the Library. This will be the final event in Sierra Madre’s One Book One City 2012 program.

One Book One City 2012 is sponsored by the Sierra Madre Civic Club, the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society, and the Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library.

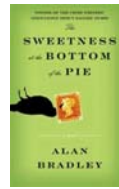
For more information, please contact Catriona Shafer or Sophia Duran at (626) 355-7186.

## READER’S REVIEW

This month’s review is by **Catherine Addé**, Library Trustee

### ***The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*, by Alan Bradley**

My new literary heroine is Flavia de Luce, the precocious, witty chemistry buff who, at age eleven, has a “passion for poison.” Set in the English countryside, this is an irresistible introductory tale to the Flavia de Luce series. In it, we meet an array of eccentric characters: Colonel du Luce, widower and Philatelic; Dogger, the Colonel’s “man;” Flavia’s irritating spiteful sisters, and various odd folk from the village constabulary.



When a man from Colonel’s past shows up unexpectedly at his crumbling manor house, ending up dead in the cucumber patch, Flavia’s bold talents as sleuth and chemist emerge: she eventually quite brilliantly solves the crime. Mystery is not my favorite genre (Sherlock Holmes notwithstanding), yet I could not resist this rollicking read and look forward to the rest of the series. I admire Mr. Bradley for beginning his literary career late in life (at age 70!), thus introducing us to incorrigible, endearing Flavia. I’ve also enjoyed his engaging, humorous and highly imaginative storytelling style.

Who did murder the mysterious visitor in the cucumber patch? I’ll never tell! Find out for yourself by checking out this bestseller from our Sierra Madre Library. It can be found in the Mystery collection (M BRADLEY), on audio (CD BRADLEY), and is available as a downloadable ebook on *OverDrive*.

### **The 2012 Library READ™ Campaign**

In 1985, the American Library Association (ALA) launched the READ™ campaign which has proven immensely effective in promoting literacy among all age groups. Comedian Bill Cosby was the first notable to appear on a poster; since then, more than 150 celebrities have donated their images for these posters, which convey the simple, but potent message—READ. Although endorsements by popular stars have certainly been effective, the ALA encourages libraries throughout the U.S. to use local community leaders—adults as well as youngsters—as “celebrity models.” The ongoing response to the program has been so consistently and overwhelmingly positive that READ™ has become one of the most successful grass roots literacy campaigns ever created.



The Sierra Madre Library launched its READ™ campaign in January 2011, which featured Jeffrey L. Throop, the 2010 President of the Tournament of Roses®, who posed with Afghanistan/Iraq War veteran Marcus Luttrell’s memoir, *Lone Survivor*. Every quarter throughout 2012, a new poster will feature one or more Sierra Madre residents who are active in the local community, usually posing with a favorite book. Souvenir bookmarks bearing the same design as the poster are also made available for takeaway at the Library.

This winter our local READ™ campaign is dovetailing with One Book One City and will feature Sierra Madre resident Barry Schwam as Sherlock Holmes. Barry is an actor who has played nearly 50 character roles on stage, television and in films. He also works as a voiceover artist and can be heard as the voice of the automatronic Col. Sanders at the Colonel Sanders Museum in Kentucky. Barry is an accomplished musician, and is well-known for his skill on the theremin, the only instrument in the world that is played without touching it. Barry’s favorite Sherlock Holmes story is *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.



2/1	Sherlock Holmes' Mystery Contest Drawing
2/2	7:30 p.m. "An Evening with Sherlock Holmes"
2/3-2/4	Friends Best Used Book Sale
2/9	3:30 p.m. Barks & Books
2/9	7:30 p.m. "Sherlock Holmes Influence on Detective Fiction"
2/12	2:00 p.m. 42 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting
2/13-2/18	Bargain Book Table Sale
2/15	7:00 p.m. Friends Board Meeting --Hart Park House
2/16	11:00 a.m. 3rd. Thursday Book Club
2/16	7:30 p.m. "Sherlock Holmes' London"
2/20	<b>Library Closed for Presidents' Day</b>
2/22	6:30 p.m. Parent/Child Workshop (No Preschool Story Hour)
2/22	7:00 p.m. Trustee's Board Meeting —City Hall
2/27-3/3	Bargain Book Table Sale
2/29	6:30 p.m. Parent/Child Workshop (No Preschool Story Hour)

*Please Note: The times for the Library's regularly scheduled programs can be found in the listings to the right.*

**SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL ARCHIVES**

Explore local history in the Archives, jointly owned and maintained by the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society and the Library. For research assistance, please call Archivist Debbie Henderson for an appointment at (626) 355-7186.

**PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR:**  
 Mondays 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. and Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Toddlers and their caregivers gather in the Children's Room for stories, songs, and crafts.

**BARKS AND BOOKS FOR KIDS**  
 Second Thursday of each month, October - July, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the Children's Room. Children of all ages visit with and read to Mae Rose, Humane Society Volunteer Dorothy Raymond's specially trained dog.

**ADULT COMPUTER CLASSES**

Free classes are offered year round at the Library. Current offerings include: "My PC," a series of 10 one-hour workshops introducing Windows 7, as well as Microsoft Word and Excel. Schedules and registration forms are available at the Library Service Desk. A \$20.00 deposit per class is required at registration, which must be made in person. The deposit is refunded upon attendance, and can also be rolled over if you wish to attend more than one class. Word and Excel classes are currently held on Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.; MY PC classes are held on Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

**TEEN BOOK CLUB & ADVISORY BOARD**

Teens in Grades 7-12 meet every Wednesday from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., October - June, in the Library basement. Join us for fun books, games, crafts & snacks. We also brainstorm ideas for book selections, programs & outreach, and discuss cultural & literary trends. Sign up online or at the Library.

**FEBRUARY CLOSINGS**  
 The Library will be closed for Presidents Day, Monday, February 20.

Sierra Madre Public Library  
 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
 Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186  
[www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us)

**LIBRARY HOURS**  
 Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 12 noon-9 p.m.  
 Thursdays and Fridays 12 noon-6 p.m.  
 Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
 Closed Sundays and holidays

**www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org**  
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