



12TH ANNUAL BASTILLE DAY CELEBRATION



Saturday, July 14, 8:00 pm
(café opens at 7:30 pm)

Celebrate Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité with *Gauche*, San Francisco's gypsy jazz band with a French flair. Enjoy the irresistible beat of Django Reinhardt and the 1930s' jazz craze of Paris's famous Hot Club - plus a little New Orleans swing and French torch songs!

Full listing on page 3

AUTHORS' CARNIVAL

Monday, June 25, 5:30 pm

21st-Century Publishing: Reports from the Front Lines

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

What's your favorite way to read? Paperback, hardback, or e-book? Kindle, Nook, or iPad? Is there a shortcut through the million-book maze to the one book you want? If you're a writer, what's the best route for your story to find its audience? Join our panel of experts who bring news from the wild frontiers of publishing which include literary agent April Eberhardt, librarian Sharon Miller and five indie publishers on their latest books and adventures. **Members & Public - Free**

Continued on page 8



PLAY READING



Thursday, July 19, 6:00 pm

Scenes From the Life of Julia Morgan: A Read-It-Yourself Experience with Judith Offer

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Wish you could have been an actor? Member playwright Judith Offer will lead a reading of her carefully researched play, *Scenes From the Life of Julia Morgan*. This is an opportunity for MI members to test, hone, or revive acting skills while having fun learning about the life of Julia Morgan, California's first woman architect. If you would like to listen, or take part as a reader, please contact Taryn Edwards 415.393.0103 or tedwards@milibrary.org to reserve your spot. **Members Free; Public \$12.**



INSTITUTE NEWS

Appreciating Neil Falconer

UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS THE LONGEST-SERVING TRUSTEE IN THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE'S 158-YEAR HISTORY.

JOHN DONALDSON,
CHESS CLUB DIRECTOR

The Mechanics' Institute Chess Club has had nine Chess Directors and three Grandmasters-in-Residence in its 158-year existence, but there is no doubt that the person with the longest and most important connection with the Chess Club has been Neil Falconer. His involvement with the club spans nine decades from his first visit in 1938 as a Berkeley High School student to the present as he continues to serve on the Mechanics' Institute Chess Committee.

A native Californian, Neil first joined the Institute in 1945 after finishing his service in the U.S. Army and soon after established himself as one of the strongest chess players in California, finishing third in the state

(continued on page 4)

Inside

Events & Special Programs	2
CinemaLit	3
Chess	5
Library Classes	6
Book Discussions	7
Authors' Carnival	8

EVENTS

LAURA SHEPPARD, DIRECTOR OF EVENTS



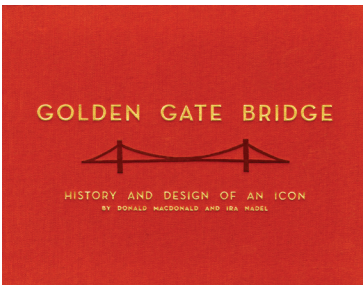
12th Annual Bastille Day Celebration

Saturday, July 14, 8:00 pm (café opens at 7:30 pm)

GaUCHO Gypsy Jazz Concert

Celebrate Libert , Egalit , Fraternit  with *GaUCHO*, San Francisco's gypsy jazz band with a French flair featuring vocalist Georgia English with Ari Munkres on bass, Rob Reich on accordion, Leon Oakley on cornet, and Dave Ricketts on guitar. Enjoy the irresistible beat of Django Reinhardt and the 1930s' jazz craze of Paris's famous Hot Club—plus a little New Orleans swing and French torch songs! A cabaret setting provides the ambiance for this festive evening and delectable French cuisine is available in the caf . So, come strut your stuff in your best beret, tri-colours or your own version of Gaultier—as there will be costume prizes for the most colorful and unique couture. Vive la France!!

Members \$15.00; Public \$18.00 - Advanced Reservations Required.



Thursday, July 26, 6:00 pm

Golden Gate Bridge: History and Design of an Icon

(Chronicle Books) Donald MacDonald

The 75th year celebration of the Golden Gate Bridge had its grand city-wide "kick-off" on May 27 and continues with events throughout the year. Join award-winning architect and bridge designer Donald MacDonald for a talk and presentation on San Francisco's most important landmark. MacDonald's commemorative book focuses on the bridge's elaborate engineering, construction, and history discussing everything from its stunning "international orange" color to the surprising ancient and modern influences on its design. Accompanied by 70 of MacDonald's own illustrations, this book is an accessible and informative study of the bridge, and an inside look at the combination of aesthetics and geometry that make the Golden Gate Bridge a legend. A must-have for anyone interested in architecture, or just in love with San Francisco.

Members Free; Public \$12

AUGUST PREVIEW

Keep a "lookout" for announcements on our upcoming Summer programs on the history and art of Coit Tower, a Literary Walking Tour of North Beach, and an authors' program with the winners and finalists of the 31st Annual Northern California Book Awards.

Information & reservations: 415.393.0100, rsvp@milibrary.org, or <http://www.milibrary.org/events>.

CINEMALIT

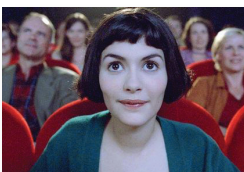
CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX

Fridays: Cafe 5:30 pm; Program 6:00 pm.

Members Free; Public Suggested Donation \$10

Reservations: 415.393.0100, rsvp@milibrary.org,

SUMMER PREVIEW: FAIRY TALES AND FLIGHTS OF FANTASY



Friday, July 13

Amelie (2001)

DIRECTED BY JEAN-PIERRE JEUNET

Audrey Tautou, Mathieu Kassovitz

A young woman who delights in surreptitiously helping others is unexpectedly rewarded with a paramour in this sumptuous seventeen-layer cake of Parisian whimsy.



Friday, July 27

Excalibur (1981)

DIRECTED BY JOHN BOORMAN

Nigel Terry, Helen Mirren

The best film ever made about King Arthur and his quest for the Holy Grail embraces the mythic aspects of the medieval legend.



Friday, August 10

The Princess Bride (1987)

DIRECTED BY ROB REINER

Cary Elwes, Robin Wright

A charming, comic tale of storybook heroes, monsters and a timeless love affair.



Friday, August 24

The Company of Wolves (1984)

DIRECTED BY NEIL JORDAN

Angela Lansbury, David Warner

The provocative undercurrent of this smart, stylish dream about little girls and werewolves is sexual awakening, with all its fears and desires.

BASTILLE DAY: PAST AND PRESENT



From revolution to the “Euro” union, France and America have had a long-time alliance, or perhaps love affair, with all the infatuation and fights that go with it. San Francisco has had an ongoing affinity with Paris as a “sister city,” as both cities have a reputation for the free-spirited, avant-garde and good cuisine.

From an historical perspective, the Mechanics’ Institute also participated in this mutual adulation with various Bastille Day Celebrations over the years. The last grand event at the Mechanics’ Pavilion on Larkin Street was in 1904. (see photo outside of the Events Office, part of our permanent exhibition on the 4th floor.)

“On July 14th 1904, the Pavilion housed a celebration of the 115th anniversary of the Fall of the Bastille. The fete included lectures given in French and English, a fencing exhibition, a “promenade band concert” of popular French operas, followed by a “grand ball,” lit by multicolored incandescent lights. ‘The sensation of the day, however, was ...little Gustave Delsol, about nine years old, who wore the uniform of a Major of the Ninth French Infantry. This miniature soldier was petted and applauded, pulled onstage to sit among distinguished guests, and serenaded with “Salut a la France” by singer Miss Dora de Fillippe.’ Join us for our upcoming Bastille Day concert to continue the tradition!

Appreciating Neil Falconer

(continued from page 1)

championship in 1946. When former World Champion Max Euwe visited the Mechanics' in 1949 Neil was one of those who held him to a draw. That same year, Neil graduated from the Boalt School of Law at UC Berkeley, passed the bar and started working at the firm where he would later rise to named partner - Steinhart and Falconer. New responsibilities did not slow down Neil's rise as a chess player, and in 1951 he won the California Open title at Santa Cruz.

These results confirmed Neil's strength as a player but what really first earned him the respect and admiration of the Chess Room regulars was his help in enshrining in the Mechanics' Bylaws the stipulation that the Institute would forever have a place for those who play chess. While the royal game had been an integral part of the M.I. since its beginnings, and the Chess Room dates back to the opening of the building in 1910, it was only in 1947 that its role was officially recognized.

This action was prompted by an attempt by the better-dressed members of the Institute to chase out what they perceived to be riff-raff – namely the regular users of the Chess Room. The “Hart Schaffner & Marx Revolt,” as dubbed by the San Francisco Chronicle after the proprietors of fancy men's wear, was put down by a group of chess players led by Charles Bagby and the young Neil Falconer. Had it not been for their efforts to rouse the 300 or so Chess Room members to action, much of the 4th Floor would now be rented out as office space.

Neil remained one of the top players at the Mechanics' for many years. He was a regular on the Northern California team in its annual matches with the Southland in the early 1950s and wrote frequently for the *California Chess Reporter*, the regional publication that had many friends of the Mechanics' on its staff, including the publisher Guthrie McClain and future Mechanics' Trustee Bob Burger. The 1950s would be the last time Neil was active as a player, though he would continue to play off and on in the future with highlights including victories over former World Champion Tigran Petrosian in a simul at the Mechanics' in 1978 and Grandmaster Arthur Dake in 1992. The latter led to him winning the U.S. Senior champion title.

Joining the Board of Trustees in 1973, Neil immediately became a member of the Chess Committee and also served as Board President, first in 1988 and again from 1993 to 1995. Among the highlights of his nearly four decades of service is his role as the chief fundraiser for the Pan Pacific

chess tournaments in 1987, 1991 and 1995. Anyone who has ever had to raise money knows just how difficult it can be, but Neil performed his role with distinction and was so successful that the events were able to attract players the caliber of former World Champion Mikhail Tal, the great Viktor Korchnoi, and Womens World champions Zsuzsa Polgar and Xie Jun.



Neil did not confine his role to top-level chess. Ahead of his time, he teamed up with the New York based American Chess Foundation in the 1980s and 1990s to bring chess instructors into under-privileged inner-city schools in San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond. Neil not only volunteered his time as an administrator for the program but was also one of its financial supporters.

In 1999 Neil established the Falconer Award at the Institute which awards a cash prize to the highest-rated junior player under 18 in Northern California. Grandmasters Vinay Bhat and Sam Shankland (who finished third in the 2011 US Championship) are among those who have won the Falconer Award, which has directed more than \$30,000 to support excellence in chess.

Neil's legendary precision and thoroughness can be seen in the definition of Northern California in the eligibility standards for the award:

“Northern California shall be deemed the area in California lying North of a line drawn from a point 10 miles South of the City of San Luis Obispo running roughly Easterly to a point 10 miles South of the City of Visalia and thence roughly Easterly to a point 10 miles South of the City of Bishop and thence in an East-West direction to the Nevada State line.”

One of Neil's defining characteristics besides his generosity of spirit and dry sense of humor has been a lifelong interest in learning. He was a regular attendee of former Grandmaster-in-Residence Alex Yermolinsky's weekly endgame lectures and has always had a keen interest in solving chess puzzles and problems. The past decade he has played with pleasure in more than one 5-minute chess tournaments at the Institute, matching wits with players almost 80 years his junior!

The Mechanics' Institute is fortunate to have such a good and devoted friend as Neil Falconer.

Chess

INTERNATIONAL MASTER JOHN DONALDSON, CHESS CLUB DIRECTOR

Thanks to the generosity of Tibor Weinberger the Mechanics' Institute will be holding the Third Imre Konig Memorial on September 22-23. The event, which commemorates the 20th anniversary of the death of International Master Konig, the first top rated player to reside in San Francisco, will be held as a seven-player round-robin, featuring a rapid chess time control of Game in 25 minutes, with a 15-second increment from move one.

The invited players consist of the top six rated players from the Bay Area—Grandmasters Sam Shankland, Nick de Firmian, Vinay Bhat, Jesse Kraai and Walter Browne, and International Master Daniel Naroditsky.



Kraai (Elizabeth Vicary)

The last player, Grandmaster Emil Anka of Hungary, pays respect to Konig's ancestry as an international cosmopolitan who was born in the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in Kula, in today's Serbia.

Konig studied in Vienna and improved his game in its chess cafemilieu, being particularly influenced by Richard Reti. Like the Czech, he earned a reputation as a fine author with his *Chess from Morphy to Botvinnik: A Century of Chess Evolution* serving as a useful instructional guide to several generations of chess players.

Konig was not only a fine writer, but also an excellent player, who twice represented Yugoslavia in Chess Olympiads. He is fondly remembered by Mechanics' old-timers for his Old World manners and generosity of spirit in sharing his chess wisdom. The Mechanics' Institute is honored to pay tribute to his memory.

Chess for Children

Saturdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

TAUGHT BY M.I. GRANDMASTER-IN-RESIDENCE
 NICK DE FIRMIAN AND ANTHONY CORRALES

Chess for Women

Sundays, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

TAUGHT BY BY EWELINA KRUBNIK

FUNDED BY A GIFT IN MEMORY OF R. MARTIN
 WISKEMANN

Tournaments

Saturday, July 7
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Mechanics' Scholastic Championship

Saturday, July 14
10:00 am - 8:00 pm
12TH ANNUAL CHARLES BAGBY MEMORIAL G/45

Tuesday Night Events

July 3, 10, 31
5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

LECTURE BY JOHN DONALDSON

6:30 pm - 10:30 pm
Summer Tuesday Night Marathon

Wednesday Night Blitz

July 11, 18, 25
6:30 pm - 8:50 pm

DIRECTED BY JULES JELINER

Thursday Night Lessons

July 5, 12, 19, 26
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

TAUGHT BY M.I. GRANDMASTER-IN-RESIDENCE
 NICK DE FIRMIAN AND ANTHONY CORRALES

CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY

"Office Hours" with our technology team

Wednesday, July 11, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Reserve a half hour with our technology experts to work on questions regarding your email, eBook readers, making the best use of the Library online catalog features, safely managing your social media accounts, or other computer or technology-related questions. All consultations will be held in the 4th floor Board Room.



To make an appointment contact Jeremy Snell at 415-393-0111 or jnell@milibrary.org.

"Office Hours" will be repeated on **Friday, August 24, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**.

Investment Information on the Web

Wednesday, July 18, 10:00 am

Learn to access content from diverse authoritative websites covering market updates, top news stories with superb editorial commentary and analyst opinions, economic and industry news, company profiles, corporate developments, trading statistics and charts, investment ideas and strategies, financial reports, investment tutorials... and more. Noteworthy sites include MSN MoneyCentral, Yahoo! Finance, MarketWatch, Google Finance, Bloomberg.com, Morningstar.com, and Smart Money.

Directory of Communication and Broadcast Media

Thursday, July 19, 10:00 am

Seeking contacts in the areas of journalism or public relations? This directory of U.S., Canadian and international media outlets is a rich source for radio and television stations, cable companies and print media publishers. Detailed entries provide contact information, advertising rates, circulation statistics, local programming information, and other essential data. Learn to export search results to Word or Excel.



Valueline: Discover the Online Resources

Thursday, July 26, 10:00 am

Our print version of Valueline will be gone by Fall. Learn now to use the web-based format of this popular newsletter, one of the most widely-consulted and highly regarded investment information publications. Learn to find objective research, insightful analysis, commentary, and proven price projections and recommendations. The online version covers more than 5,000 publicly traded companies, and is accessible from your home or office, and in the Library.



Valueline Resource Center will be repeated on **Thursday, August 30, 10:00 am**.

Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage

Thursday, August 9, 10:00 am

Get up-to-date and reliable answers to your tough business and investment questions and identify investment opportunities. Learn to find company and industry information on publicly-traded U.S. corporations together with S&P's independent research, analysis and opinions. This valuable database is available to members from home or office, and on Library computers.



Learn to use the Library's Financial Investment Newsletters

Thursday, August 23, 10:00 am

Invest just over an hour of your time, and walk away with a solid knowledge of the Library's collection of more than 20 investment letter subscriptions covering stocks, mutual funds, commodities, turnaround situations, technical analysis and market timing. Discover particular strengths of each newsletter. Titles with similar content are compared. Learn about *Hulbert Financial Digest*, a monthly publication which tracks the performance of the investment letters themselves, based on their security recommendations over time.

Information & registration: 415.393.0102, reference@milibrary.org, or <http://www.milibrary.org/class>. Advance registration is required. Note start time for each class. Prospective members may register for one class if space allows. All classes meet in the 3rd floor Library Classroom.

Class Room Renovation

SHARON MILLER,
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

I am pleased to announce that renovation of our Library classroom on the 3rd floor will begin in August, and be completed in early Fall. Thanks to the generous bequest of Mechanics' Institute member Garfield McNamara, we have funds to upgrade our heavily-used classroom space to accommodate changes in technology and provide flexibility in instructional sessions. These upgrades will also benefit members who use the room for individual study when classes and study groups are not in session.

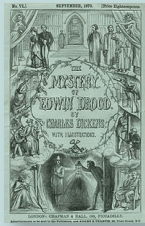
Library staff will post signs when specific dates for work in the classroom will make that space closed to members. Other than occasionally moving supplies or equipment through the library, the noise of the renovation work will largely be contained in the classroom and normal library operations will continue through the weeks of work. We expect to move the books from classroom shelves in early August; staff will page any requested materials as needed by members. Classes and regularly scheduled writers' groups will be moved to other spaces in the building as necessary.

The temporary inconvenience will result in an updated space with improved lighting, less noise from neighboring heating and cooling systems, and furniture which better accommodates laptop use, to name just three of the project goals. Our website will keep members up-to-date as this project progresses.



3rd floor of 57 Post
when it first opened
in 1910.

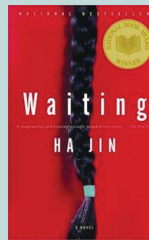
BOOK DISCUSSIONS



Monday, July 9, Noon; drop-ins welcome
Brown Bag Mystery Readers' Book Group
The Mystery of Edwin Drood

CHARLES DICKENS

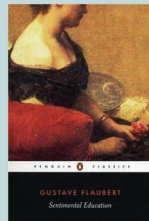
We can't let the year of Dickens' celebration pass without a discussion of his only mystery, left unfinished at his death. More than one author has completed the book for Dickens; we can talk about differences between the editions.



Tuesday, July 17, Noon; drop-ins welcome
Fiction You Wish You Had Read
Waiting

HA JIN

Ha Jin was respected for his poetry when this novel won the 1999 National Book Award for fiction. Called "a kind of Chinese Dr. Zhivago" by a Kirkus reviewer, this is a love story that breaks down cultural barriers.



Thursday, August 16, 6:00 pm; Registration required
Forgotten Classics
Sentimental Education

GUSTAVE FLAUBERT

You've read *Madame Bovary*, but have you read this book by Flaubert? Inspired by his school years in Paris, where he had a first-hand look at the Revolution, Flaubert eventually published this book in 1870. He described it:

"I want to write the moral history of the men of my generation— or, more accurately, the history of their feelings. It's a book about love, about passion; but passion such as can exist nowadays—that is to say, inactive."

Proust Society of America: San Francisco chapter

Under the leadership of Dr. Mark Calkins, Mechanics Institute offers two bi-weekly discussion groups on a semester basis. **Proust Group** discusses *In Search of Lost Time*, 5:30-6:30 pm; the **World Literature Group** discusses Proustian-inspired works from 6:45-8:00 pm. Both groups will be open for new members at the start of the semester on September 12. For more information, contact him at mark@tempsperdu.com

Information & registration: 415.393.0113 or Sharon Miller smiller@milibrary.org
All readings are available at the 2nd floor Circulation desk.
All Book Discussions are held in the 4th floor Board Room.

57 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94104
www.milibrary.org

Important Numbers
Circulation: 415.393.0101
Reference: 415.393.0102
Reservation hotline: 415.393.0100
E-mail: reference@milibrary.org

Library Hours
Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 9 pm
Friday: 9 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm - 5 pm

Taryn Edwards, Interim Editor

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SHARON MILLER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Would you like to lend a hand to benefit fellow MI members? Are you interested in learning more about the Library's resources and services? Are you a people-person who enjoys interacting with others? The Library is seeking members who wish to share their skills and energies as volunteers for Library programs and collection projects. From professional expertise to muscle work; from graphic arts to café service, your talents will be appreciated by staff and members. Some volunteer work will be on a project basis, other responsibilities will require commitment to a schedule. Watch for a formal application in the Library flyer racks or on our website after July 4th. Call or email for more information: smiller@milibrary.org or 415.393.0113.

AUTHORS' CARNIVAL

Readings, workshops, and camaraderie in celebration of our members' creative achievements.



Saturday, June 30, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

How To Get Your Novel Published

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Taught by Jay Schaefer, editor, and Laurie Fox, literary agent, this class demystifies the publishing industry and reveals the best way to find a publisher, how agents and publishers evaluate your manuscript, and the advantages and disadvantages of self-publishing. You do not need to have completed a manuscript to benefit from the class. All attendees will receive a copy of *The Essential Guide to Getting Your Book Published*.

Fee \$75 for MI members/\$95 for non-members. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.



Tuesday, July 10, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Saturday, August 4, 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Financial District Walking Tour

MEET IN THE 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Back by popular demand! Experience the city from a unique perspective! With special emphasis on the Mechanics' Institute and its place in the socio-cultural scene of the city, veteran tour leader Rick Evans will take you on a memorable two-and-a-half-hour walking expedition of the Financial District. Discover the architectural beauty of landmark buildings, hard-to-find rooftop gardens, and unique open spaces that you've probably never noticed! The tour will meet in the 4th floor meeting room and end South of Market. **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.**



Fee \$30.00 per person in cash collected at the beginning of the tour. Tour leaves promptly at starting time. For reservations see below.

Tuesday, July 31, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Face Time With An Editor

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Paralyzed with writers' block? Need guidance in developing an outline? Concerned about your writing style? Is your "voice" appropriate to both your content and your audience? Want to simply learn how an editor thinks by observing one in action? Join David Colin Carr, editor of fiction and non-fiction, for a public "editorial consultation." For help with writing style, we'll look at up to 5 pages (limited slots available. Writing must be submitted in advance, and you must be comfortable with your work being commented on publicly). Consultations will be audio recorded for possible posting on David's blog so others can learn about the editing process as well. (You can remain anonymous.) For more information, reservations or to submit a piece of writing, contact Taryn Edwards (see below). **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Fee: \$10 to listen, \$20 for writing consultation.** For more information about David please see <http://www.davidcolincarr.com/>



For more information or to reserve for any of these activities contact Taryn Edwards 415.393.0103, tedwards@milibrary.org