

FRIENDS



OF LOS GATOS LIBRARY

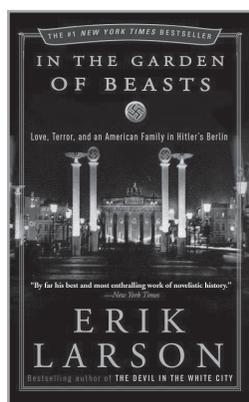
Friends of
Los Gatos
Library

Off The Shelf

Bestselling Author Erik Larson at Los Gatos Library



Erik Larson, bestselling author of *In the Garden of Beasts* and *Devil in the White City*, will speak and sign his books at Los Gatos Library, 100 Villa Ave., on Thursday, May 17, at 7:30 p.m. in a fundraising event for Friends of Los Gatos Library. Leigh Weimers, former columnist for the *San Jose Mercury News*, will emcee.



Erik Larson is the author of six books, including three *New York Times* best-sellers. *The Devil in the White City* remained on the *Times*' hardcover and paperback lists for a combined total of over three years. It won an Edgar Award for nonfiction crime writing and was a finalist for a National Book Award. The option to make a movie of the book was acquired by Leonardo DiCaprio. Film rights to Erik's most recent book, *In the Garden of Beasts*, have been acquired by Tom Hanks. Eighteen different publications included *In the Garden of Beasts* on their lists of the top books of 2011.

Event chairperson and Friends board member Sandy Decker says, "With this opportunity to showcase an international bestselling author, we are hoping to have our first very successful major fundraiser to keep our wonderful new library on the cutting edge of community service."

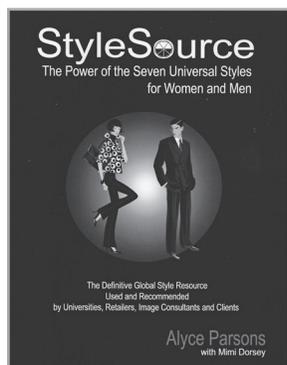
Tickets are \$45 and may be purchased by check, credit card or online. Go to the Friends website: <http://www.friendsoflibrary.org> for full details, or call (408) 399-5700.

Advance purchase (and early arrival) is recommended because seating is limited. Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the program will begin at 7:30 p.m. 

Friday Forum & Annual Meeting with Alyce Parsons

by Victoria Johnson

Style at Any Age: The Power of the Seven Universal Styles for Women and Men will be the topic on May 11 when Alyce Parsons speaks at the Friends Friday Forum and annual



meeting in the Town Council Chambers, 110 E. Main St., Los Gatos. Alyce is an international leader in the image-consulting profession and author of the book *StyleSource*.

Doors open at 7 p.m. for refreshments and book-signing, and the program begins at 7:30 p.m.



Alyce is a professional image consultant, author, teacher, and community volunteer. She was one of the founders of the Association of Image Consultants International, and served two terms as president of the San Francisco chapter. She was also the first director of the group's international organization. She

Continued on page 4

Spring
2012

From Our President

by Carol Hamilton



Dear Friends,

When the town decided to build a new library many things had to come into play—financing, design and construction just to name a few. The Friends of the Library was asked to raise \$2.1 million to fill the stunning new structure with furniture, fixtures and equipment, a very daunting task for our small group of volunteers. But with our “Fund for the Future” bank account, a vision and a lot of hard work, we made it happen!

After the exciting grand opening of the new Los Gatos Library on Feb. 11, the public finally got to see all the items our organization has paid for. And the Friends have been able to return to their more routine tasks of sorting and selling donated books to fund library programs.

I invite each of you to come by the library, grab a cup of coffee or tea at the Los Gatos Coffee Roasting concession in the lobby, and settle into a comfy chair by the fireplace to enjoy a new book or magazine.

As president of the Friends, I thank every one of you who participated in our *Once in A Generation* campaign which helped make possible this wonderful new addition to our community.

Sincerely,
Carol Hamilton

New Teen Room A Huge Success

by Jennifer Laredo, teen librarian

On Monday, Feb. 13, the day after our grand-opening weekend, the teen room of our new library had a different sort of grand-opening celebration. After the last bell rang at Los Gatos High, our teen library patrons came back, and most of them saw the new teen space for the first time. Their excitement, astonishment, and appreciation that first day, and in the weeks that have followed, is a sign that this space is an astounding success.

On any given school day, somewhere between 30 and 50 teens use the teen room, mostly in the afterschool hours. They use the textbook collection for homework, or spread out at one of the tables to work on group projects. The lounge chairs, footstools and end tables are a huge hit, and the central part of the room is usually full of teens chatting or reading. The group study room has become the hot spot for both study sessions and gossip sessions. Circulation of teen materials is about five times higher than it was at the old library, as teens and other patrons enjoy our expanded teen collection and the new display areas. We're offering reference services in the teen room in the afternoons, allowing staff a chance to get to know our teen patrons in a way we never could in the old library.

Local teens have really claimed this space and made it their own. Recently, a guest to the teen space asked a high school student what she thought of the teen room. She said she'd just called her mom and told her not to pick her up until closing, because she was enjoying the library and getting so much work done. She said she was planning to visit every day. Our crowd of “regulars” is definitely growing.

Thank you so much for your help in creating this wonderful new place for our teen patrons. Finally, our teens have the library space they've always deserved! 🌿





Director's Corner

by Linda Dydo, library director

Next time you visit our beautiful new library, check out some of these services you may have overlooked.

Los Gatos Library Mobile App

Did you know you can access the library's website, catalog, and even take a tour of the building from your smart phone?

To access the library's free mobile download, please visit lgpl.boopsie.com using your phone's Internet browser. iPhone users can obtain the application through the Apple App Store, and Android users can obtain the application through Android Market. Search for "Los Gatos Library" to locate and download the free application.

Using Free Library E-books with a Kindle

The Library currently uses Overdrive as one of our main e-book providers, and we have access to more than 2,500 downloadable books. Although these books are digital they are still only available to be checked out and downloaded one person at a time. Instructions for the various formats download can be found at <http://www.losgatosca.gov/index.aspx?NID=1668>.

Live Help for Local-History Research

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 1-5 p.m. in the History Area on the second floor, experienced library docents are on hand to assist you with research on local topics. They are skilled in newspaper archives, school yearbooks, cross directories, and so much more. Whether tracing your house or your family roots, they can help. Fill out a question form at <http://www.losgatosca.gov/forms.aspx?FID=86> and let them know which day you would like to meet with them.

Electronic Resources

The student in your family will appreciate these expensive information resources that may be accessed for free—in the library or from your home computer—at <http://www.losgatosca.gov/index.aspx?NID=1582#Student>. *World Book Online* offers easy-to-read articles, engaging images, and interactive games, while *World Book Info Finder* is a collection of science projects, a biography center and more. *You will need your Los Gatos Library card number to access these databases from home or work.*

If you're interested in tracing your family tree, you are welcome to use *Ancestry*, a genealogy resource. This is only accessible at the library and is generously funded by the Friends of the Library.

Book Clubs

Los Gatos Library supports two regular book discussion groups, one on the second Monday of the month at 9 a.m., and another on the third

Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you cannot make it to these meetings, you can follow the discussion online at gplbookclub.blogspot.com For more information, including upcoming titles, see the bottom of the library homepage: <http://www.losgatosca.gov/index.aspx?NID=42>

If you are involved in a private book club, the library can assist you with our Book Club Kits that have multiple copies of selected titles and may be checked out for six weeks.

Many of you sought me out at the library opening. Thank you. It was a pleasure to meet you and show off the new library simultaneously. The rest of you, feel free to track me down on your next visit! 🍃

Nominees for Friends of the Library Board of Directors

July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013

President	Carol Hamilton
Vice-President	Marlene Rodman
Recording Secretary	Toni Blackstock
Corresponding Secretary	Doris Epstein
Treasurer	Tom Atkinson
Programs	Sandy Decker
Membership	Georgina Van Horn
Book Sales	Valerie Archer
Grants/Appeals	Rita Baum
Newsletter	Mary Martin
Publicity	Cheryl McKenzie
Parliamentarian/ mailing	Dale Hill
Hospitality	Sue Saunders Shirley Burke

Directors at Large	Betty Chase Mary Ann Cook Janice Gali Jill Logar Alyce Parsons Val Swisher Chris Terpening
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Meet the Staff: Elsi Stotts

by Mary Ann Cook



Librarian Elsi Stotts is supposedly retired, but you would never know it. She works at our Library every other Saturday in addition to being an on-call librarian, substituting for ailing staff members. Her other connection with Los Gatos is that Elsi is the woman who took Peggy Conaway's place at San Jose's main library after Peggy became director of Los Gatos Library.

Elsi has always held a leading role in librarianship even in her early days in the profession. After college graduation, she had fulfilled half of a master's degree in psychology when she married and moved to Washington, D.C., where her husband was in the U.S. Navy Band. There she went to work at the D.C public library and got hooked on librarianship.

So Elsi went back to school for a master's in library science and information services at the University of Pittsburgh. Next came a stint at the University of Maryland, where she was administrative head of human resources for the university library, overseeing a staff of 350, plus 400 students. Later, after her husband took a job in the computer industry in the Bay Area, she held a similar, expanded job at Stanford, where 700 students were employed.

Then, at Sunnyvale Library, Stotts was assistant director and then served San Jose for 15 years in various city libraries before becoming supervising librarian for the new main library when the city and San Jose State combined forces to produce the Martin Luther King Library.

After Elsi retired in 2003, she stopped by the Los Gatos Library to say hello to Peggy. Peggy's response was, "Why not come to work here—part-time?"

And so she did.

She commutes from her hillside ranch home in Morgan Hill, a family compound her son created. Her other son lives in Fremont, and she has four grandchildren.

Her hobbies include reading, (natch!), walking and travel. She once spent four months in Seoul, South Korea, working at the Seoul University Library on fascinating projects, such as writing speeches for the president of the university, tweaking English-language brochures and translating articles written in European languages into English.

"I love the new library," says the lifelong librarian. "It's a wonderful library. And most of all I love serving the patrons." Having worked in human resources for so long, she's a natural with the public. And with her gusto, she's obviously someone who will never truly retire. 🌿

Alyce Parsons, cont. from page 1

has consulted with organizations as diverse as Nordstrom, Canyon Ranch Health Resorts and The American Heart Association.

Alyce holds a lifetime teaching credential, and started the image-consulting program at West Valley Community College where she taught for 10 years. Her books have been used as textbooks on style in universities

and fashion schools around the world. New York's Fashion Institute of Technology has used her textbooks continuously since 1990.

An active community volunteer for 40 years, Alyce serves on the board of Friends of the Library and Silicon Valley Reads. She has been a member of San Jose Junior League, the Santa Clara County Dental Auxiliary, Let's

Look At Art, and the Los Gatos High School Fashion Show.

Alyce and her husband Mike have lived in the Los Gatos/Saratoga area since the late '60s. Their family foundation supports local arts and education. They have two children and three grandchildren, two of whom attend Los Gatos schools. 🌿

Friends Indeed: Sue & Skip Saunders

by Valerie Archer

Getting involved is par for the course for avid Friends volunteers Sue and Skip Saunders. “When you live in a small town,” Skip says, “you have to pay your civic dues. You have to participate. Otherwise, you’re just along for the ride.”

Sue is a local gal. She grew up in Los Gatos and was a member of the last class to graduate from the University Avenue Junior High before its conversion to the Old Town shopping center. Her family had moved from Oregon into a 1920s cottage in town when Sue was just 6 weeks old. She remembers growing up here as “a delight” and has fond memories of the beautiful orchards surrounding Los Gatos.

Skip hails from Niantic, Conn., a summer enclave on the shoreline of the Long Island Sound. Descended from sea captains and oystermen, Skip had his first skiff at age 7, a sailboat at age 10, and by age 12 was racing up and down Niantic’s saltwater river in a motorboat. He also inherited a salty sense of humor, and keeps the Friends book-sale volunteers in stitches during

their sometimes strenuous shifts.

The couple met in Denver, and it was love at first sight. Skip had recently completed a stint with the Navy, and Sue was managing a network of state-funded, nonprofit, daycare centers. They got married and decided to move home—but which, his or hers? Connecticut won out, and it was there that Skip pursued a career in the nuclear power industry and Sue did social work for the municipality while raising their daughter Katie, now a transplant social worker at Tufts Medical Center in Boston. Los Gatos, however, was never out of the family picture.

Many townsfolk remember Sue’s mom, Katherine Ytterboe, a teacher and energetic community volunteer. She was a museum docent and worked on behalf of the Bellringer Committee for historic homes. Friends President Carol Hamilton remembers her as a neighbor “and second mom, really. If she saw me planting flowers she’d come right over and help.” Sue and Skip decided to live in Sue’s family home a good portion of the year once they retired, at least that



portion when the East Coast golf clubs are closed!

Just days after they actually did retire, in January 2010, Skip made an advance trip to Los Gatos. During the ride from the airport, their new neighbor, Carol Hamilton, began describing the Friends’ campaign to raise money for the new library. Skip’s sense of community immediately kicked in, and the very next night he spoke at a public meeting in front of the Town Council, sharing his belief that the quality of life in a town depends on its cultural assets such as good schools and an up-to-date library. Shortly after, when Sue came out West, Carol invited her to join the Friends of the Library’s board of directors, where her enthusiasm and input are invaluable. The couple works tirelessly in support of book sales, logging many hours sorting, pricing, boxing and hauling. Sometimes we wish it would just stay wet and wintry year round on the East Coast! These are a couple of Friends we can’t do without. 🌿

More Leaves and Plaques Coming Soon!

by Katherine Cance, Friends of the Library development director

Our wonderful new library has several remarkable donor walls and recognition plaques located throughout the building. All donations of \$500 or more that were received by Sept. 30 are commemorated on beautiful engraved plaques and leaves on shelves, benches, and two donor walls—one in the lobby and one in the courtyard.

Thanks to the generosity of our

community, many more donations have been made since Oct. 1. Due to construction schedules and cost of production, we are only able to create new recognition plaques in large batches, and have recently submitted names of all those making donations from October through mid-March. These new plaques and engraved donor leaves will be installed this summer.

If you would like to be a part of this stunning town landmark, the Friends of the Library is still accepting donations and will be happy to add your name to the list of organizations and individuals who have left a lasting legacy through their contributions. To make a donation, see the Friends website: <http://www.friendsoflibrary.org/index.php/donate-now.html> 🌿

Children's Programs

by Heidi Long, children's librarian



What a fabulous reception the children's room has had from the community! Thanks to your hard work and generosity, the children's room is absolutely brimming with children and smiles. The space turned out perfectly and the community has been making wonderful use of the spaces, collections, computers and programs. Nearly 25,000 items were checked out from the children's room in the first month of operation!

We are so grateful to all of you for making the new library the extraordinary place it is. We are also extremely appreciative of your continued support of our youth programming. We are thrilled to host our storytimes and special programs in the beautiful new storytime space. Find out about all the exciting upcoming events, including the summer reading program, on the library website: library.losgatos.ca.gov

Do You Like to Read Stories?

We are currently seeking new, energetic folks to help restart the Books Together Program in which volunteers simply come and read to children at the library after school on Mondays and Wednesdays. This is a low-key, but fantastic program that requires a monthly commitment of only 90 minutes to three hours. If you are interested, please contact me for more information at hlong@losgatosca.gov or (408) 354-6894.

Many Thanks to Businesses for In-Kind Donations to Campaign

When you patronize these businesses that made in-kind donations of goods and professional services to our *Once in a Generation* capital campaign, please thank them for the part they played in making our new library a reality.

Affordable Treasures	Epiphany Communications	NASA-Ames
Aster & Black Custom Clothiers	Fleur de Cocoa	Only The Best
AstroJump	Gardino Fresco	Nothing Bundt Cakes
Automobuild	Hillbrook School	Julie Opatovsky, graphic designer
Marilyn and Dale Barcellos, musicians	Hotel Los Gatos	Palacio
Baskin-Robbins	Icing on the Cake	Parlor 308
Lori Berry, event planner	Jazz in the Plazz	Pedro's
Billy's Boston Chowder House	Kurt Anderson Band	Promotion-N-Motion
Blacy's Jewelers	Los Gatos Café	Purple Onion
Blendz	Los Gatos Cinema	Regale Winery
Bunches	Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Company	Restaurant James Randall
Byington Winery	Los Gatos Community Foundation	Ridgemark Golf Course
Cafe Primavera	Los Gatos Framing Company	Robertson Publishing
Carmel Valley Ranch	Los Gatos High School Marching Band	Safeway (Los Gatos)
Center Staging Consulting	Los Gatos Luxury Cars	She She Shoes
Chase VP	Los Gatos Meats	Silicon Valley Web Design & Hosting
Christina StuhlmueLLer, graphic design	Los Gatos Parent Nursery School	Silver Mountain Winery
Cin-Cin Wine Bar	Los Gatos Shakespeare	Three Degrees
Design Cabin	Edward T. Lu, PhD., NASA astronaut	The Toll House Hotel
Dolce Spazio	Lunardi's	Trader Joe's
Edible Arrangements	Manresa	Whole Foods
Jay Elliot, author	Muns Vineyard	Willow Street Pizza
Enoteca La Storia Farouche Band	Music in The Park	Paul Zoodsma, chef

Ex Libris

by Valerie Archer, book sale chair

A huge thank you to all you generous bibliophiles who donate books to the Friends book sales. Rest assured that your donations are carefully sorted and assessed, so that the Friends can offer them to the public at fair prices, raising much-needed funds that flow directly back to Los Gatos Library. Spread the word that we love your gently used, secondhand books, especially children's books, computer and technical books, art, newer fiction, eclectic offerings, out-of-print books and classics. But bring in whatever you can bear to part with! We'll make sure it goes off your shelf and onto someone else's.

Where to Take Donated Books

When you bring just a few donated books to the library, you can drop them off at the main circulation desk. But if you have several boxes or bags, tell the library clerks (and pick up your donation receipt) and then drive to the parking lot on the left side of the building, and someone will open the

door. (There is a bell beside the door.) Friends volunteers are on site every morning and can help with donations, but the clerks are always willing to take your books whenever the library is open. If you have a huge number of books, it's best to phone (408) 219-9516 to arrange a specific time to drop them off or to schedule a pickup.

Thank You, Library Clerks!

We are privileged to have such an exceptional, hardworking, top-rate team on the library staff. The Friends simply could not be booksellers without you. Not only do the clerks accept donations, they now take payment for the books you buy from the Friends book-sale shelves in the lobby. While waiting in line to pay for books, please be patient and realize that the clerks are doing double duty by helping out the Friends in addition to their library duties.

Books and Volunteers Needed

We always welcome new volunteers

and donations of books. The Book Sale Committee is also in need of a later-model computer. We are a non-profit organization, and all your donations are tax-deductible. For any book-sale-related questions, phone Valerie at (408) 219-9516. 🍃

Weekly Book Sale Every Sunday!

Los Gatos has a new book store—Second Hand Prose—which will be open every Sunday during library hours, 1-5 p.m.! The Friends have temporary use of the former children's library as a sales space while permanent re-use of the old library is being determined. Drop in to browse our entire collection of gently used and ex-library books, which is updated weekly. This is a fabulous venue, so check it out, and find some bargains!

Van Meter School Jumps for the Library

Things were hopping at Louise Van Meter School on March 28 when 550 first- through fourth-graders raised more than \$6,800 in their annual jump-a-thon, this year titled "Jump for the Library." Students, including third-grader Jordan Phillips, pictured right, got pledges for their jumping times, and all those pledges were donated to the library according to Rosanne Adona, principal, and Stephanie Figeira, president of the Home and School Club. Thank you, Van Meter!



PHOTO CREDIT: GRACE KVAMME

Renewal Reminder

It's that time again! If you haven't yet responded to the Friends renewal letter you received a few months ago, consider doing it now. There's a membership form on the back of the newsletter you can complete and mail in.

Now that we have a beautiful new library, a vibrant, thriving Friends organization will be more essential than ever. Be part of it!

FRIENDS



OF LOS GATOS LIBRARY

100 Villa Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95030

Editor: Mary Brence Martin
Design & Layout: Amy Sirota
Printer: ProColor, Inc.

Save the Dates!

Sundays, 1-5 p.m. — Buy used books
at *Second Hand Prose*
May 11 — Style expert Alyce Parsons
speaks at annual meeting
May 17 — Author Erik Larson speaks

Non-profit organization
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

I would like to become a member. Enclosed is my membership application and a check made payable to Friends of Los Gatos Library.

Tax deductible, annual dues are as follows:

Senior/Student \$10 Individual \$15 Couple/Family \$25 Sustaining \$50 Patron \$100

Business \$100 Life Member \$500 Best Friend Additional Gift

Gift Membership in the amount of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ e-mail: _____

I would like to volunteer for:

Book sales Hospitality Programs Publicity Library volunteer Membership

Become a Friend of Los Gatos Library

Off The Shelf is published by Friends of Los Gatos Library, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established to encourage use of the library for the pursuit of knowledge, information and pleasure; to increase public awareness of library resources; to raise funds for library enhancements; and to provide volunteer help to the library and its patrons. Friends yearly memberships run from October 1 to September 30.

To renew your membership or to become a Friend of Los Gatos Library, please complete the membership application below and mail to: Friends of Los Gatos Public Library, 100 Villa Avenue, Los Gatos, CA 95030