



## EVENTS & SPECIAL PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHT



**Thursday, September 27, 6:00 pm**

Two of San Francisco's most well respected women in politics and media will be here to discuss their careers advising candidates, and analyzing and reporting the news of the day. They will also comment on the upcoming Presidential election.



**Campaign Boot Camp 2.0: Basic Training for Candidates, Staffers, Volunteers, and Nonprofits**

CHRISTINE PELOSI

**Never in my Wildest Dreams: A Black Woman's Life in Journalism**

BELVA DAVIS (WITH VICKI HADDOCK)

Full listing on page 2

## BOOKS, BEER, AND CREATIVITY



**Friday, September 28, 5:00 pm**

2ND FLOOR LIBRARY

The Mechanics' Institute Library is proud to announce our **2nd Annual Booktoberfest**. This year we are feting our friends and members who are involved in the publishing industry: editors, writing teachers, book packagers, designers, graphic artists, agents, and more—with a networking opportunity and tradeshow that is reminiscent of our historic industrial fairs (this time with beer!). Local independent publishers Heyday, Tachyon Press, and McSweeney's will also discuss their philosophy on creating books that sell.

Full listing on page 8

## CLASSES HIGHLIGHT

**Wednesday, September 12, Noon**

**Cool Apps: A Lunchtime Showcase**

If you have an iPhone, iPad, or Android device, you may be overwhelmed by the number of available apps—the small, specialized programs that add new capabilities to your phone or tablet. Come to this one hour show-and-tell of useful and fun apps for your phone or tablet. We'll explore categories such as calendars, travel, finance, and dining. Be prepared to show off your favorite finds, and leave with a list of apps to try out. **This class will meet in the 4th floor meeting room. Bring your lunch if you wish.**



More listings on page 4

## INSTITUTE NEWS

### Event Registration Improvements

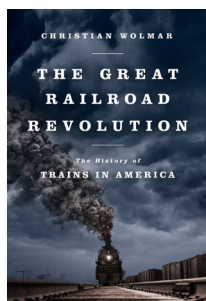
JEREMY SNELL, WEB LIBRARIAN

**S**tarting in September, we will begin using EventBrite for managing the reservations for all of our events and classes. There are several advantages to this new system: members and the public will be able to register online and receive immediate confirmation of reservations, a reminder of reservations will be emailed a few days before the event occurs, and if it's a fee-based event, you can pay the admission charge ahead of time with a major credit card. Don't worry; our fee structure is not changing! Most events will still be free for members. This system will also make it easier for staff to plan (how much food to buy, for example) and track which events were the most successful. To sign up for an event, just find the program of your interest on our website, [www.milibrary.org](http://www.milibrary.org) and select how many tickets you want. EventBrite will walk you through the rest.

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# EVENTS



Attend these intimate and up close author programs and engage directly with local, national, and internationally known writers talking about their newly released books.

**Wednesday, September 19, 6:00 pm**

***The Great Railroad Revolution: The History of Trains in America*** (Public Affairs)

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR

Christian Wolmar explores the rise and fall of the American railroad in an account that begins with the opening of the first American railroad line in the 1830s. The dramatic explosion of tracks and stations in the 19th century connected much of the continental United States, and truly qualifies as a revolution that changed commerce, travel, and everyday life. This masterful history traces not only the expansion and success of railroads and its chief entrepreneurs, but the unbelievable levels of corruption and graft. It also examines the supplanting of railroads by car and air travel, and the crucial role railroads still play in transporting goods across this country. **Members Free; Public \$12**



**Thursday, September 27, 6:00 pm**

*Two of San Francisco's most well respected women in politics and media will be here to discuss their careers advising candidates, and analyzing and reporting the news of the day. They will also comment on the upcoming Presidential election.*

***Never in my Wildest Dreams: A Black Woman's Life in Journalism***

(Berrett-Koehler Publishers)

BELVA DAVIS (WITH VICKI HADDOCK)

This honest and inspiring memoir traces a reporter's rise from a childhood in the crowded projects of Oakland to a career that spanned five decades. KQED TV host Belva Davis, the first black female television journalist on the West Coast, reported on everything from the 1964 Republican Convention (where racists physically and verbally attacked her) to Vietnam War protests, the People's Temple tragedy, the assassination of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, the AIDS epidemic, and the 2008 election of President Barack Obama. No wonder Davis, now in her 70s, has been referred to as "The Walter Cronkite of the Bay Area."



***Campaign Boot Camp 2.0: Basic Training for Candidates, Staffers, Volunteers, and Nonprofits*** (Berrett-Koehler Publishers)

CHRISTINE PELOSI

Christine Pelosi has led leadership "boot camps" in over thirty American states and three foreign countries. Her book draws on a lifetime of grassroots experience in political campaigns. Along with examining the expanding role of social media and technology in modern campaigns, this updated edition of her 2007 book offers practical advice about setting goals and shaping a message, and offers quotes on running successful campaigns from a diverse array of public figures, including Donna Brazile, Willie L. Brown, Bill Clinton, Mahatma Ghandi and George F. Will. This book is a must have for anyone interested in public service, or just fascinated by politics. **Members Free; Public \$12**



## OCTOBER PREVIEW

Tuesday, October 2, 6:00 pm

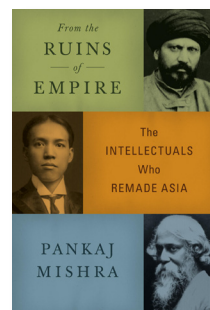
Cosponsored by Asia Society and World Affairs Council

*From the Ruins of Empire: The Intellectuals who Remade Asia* (Public Affairs)

PANKAJ MISHRA

In this intriguing portrait of the minds that shaped the modern Asian world, author Pankaj Mishra reviews historical events from the Near, Middle and Far East and the important intellectuals, reformers and revolutionaries from the past two centuries, thinkers who shared a goal of a greater Asia. Sun Yatsen, Liang Qichao, Nehru, and Jamal al-Din al-Afghani are among the figures examined in this lucid and bracing view of colonialism and its aftermath. Mishra's gripping and entertaining narrative challenges popular assumptions about modern Asia's revolt against the West, and brings to light the leaders who have shaped contemporary China, India and the Muslim world.

Members of MI, AS & WAC Free; Public \$12



## CINEMALIT

CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX

**Fridays: Café opens 5:30 pm; program begins 6:00 pm.**

**Members Free; Public Suggested Donation \$10**

For twelve years Mechanics' Institute's CinemalIt has offered a monthly mini-film festival/salon, showcasing directors, stars, film genres, and classics. Each film is introduced by film critic and CinemalIt curator Michael Fox, or by guests who include local film writers, critics and aficionados. Come for the movie. Stay for the discussion and fresh popcorn!

## NEON NOIR: DARK NIGHTS IN FULL COLOR



**Friday, September 7**

*The Grifters* (1990)

DIRECTED BY STEPHEN FREARS

Anjelica Huston, John Cusack, Annette Bening

A small-time con artist is torn between his lover and his mother in this sunlit, cold-blooded adaptation of Jim Thompson's novel.



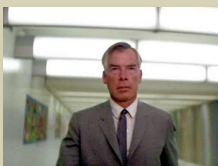
**Friday September 21**

*Red Rock West* (1993)

DIRECTED BY JOHN DAHL

Nicolas Cage, Lara Flynn Boyle, Dennis Hopper

An honest but broke ex-Marine gets entangled in a murder-for-hire scheme in this improbable and amusing Southwest noir.



**Friday, September 14**

*Point Blank* (1967)

DIRECTED BY JOHN BOORMAN

Lee Marvin, Angie Dickinson

This iconic, influential thriller, partially shot at Alcatraz, follows a lone hood on a relentless campaign for revenge and payback.



**Friday, September 28**

*The Deep End* (2001)

DIRECTED BY SCOTT MCGEHEE AND DAVID SIEGEL

Tilda Swinton, Goran Visnjic

A Tahoe mom goes to extraordinary lengths to protect her family in this contemporary adaptation of the source novel for *The Reckless Moment* (1949).

# CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY



## Wednesday, September 12, Noon Cool Apps: A Lunchtime Showcase

If you have an iPhone, iPad, or Android device, you may be overwhelmed by the number of available apps - the small, specialized programs that add new capabilities to your phone or tablet. Come to this one hour show-and-tell of useful and fun apps for your phone or tablet. We'll explore categories such as calendars, travel, finance, and dining. Be prepared to show off your favorite finds, and leave with a list of apps to try out! This class will meet in the 4th floor meeting room. Bring your lunch if you wish.

## Thursday, September 13, 10:00 am Travel Planning 101

Do you like to travel in groups, explore with a guide, go somewhere exotic, or adventure close to home? Whether you are planning the trip of a lifetime or a long weekend with friends, MI Library has all the resources you need to create your next trip. Let us introduce you to our vast travel book collection, language lesson audio CDs, online resources, and myriad travel websites. From passports to flights—and ground travel—to accommodations, and everything in between. If you are looking at ways to start planning, or have specific travel questions, this class can help you become a savvy and well-prepared traveler.



## Thursday, September 13, 3:00 pm Repeated Tuesday, September 25, 10:00 am What is Twitter and Why Should I Care?

What exactly is Twitter? Founded in San Francisco in 2006, Twitter is constantly in the news: for its use during the Arab Spring uprising, its role in the Mid-Market redevelopment, the importance of its numbers to Lady Gaga and Oprah Winfrey. Learn what Twitter is all about, and what the strange vocabulary means. Manage your Twitter account and discover that it can be so much more than simply telling the world what you ate for lunch today.



## Thursday, September 20, 10:00 am Company and Industry Information on the Web

Learn to find up-to-date information on public and private companies using parameters you can specify, such as product, company size, geographic location, etc. Discover authoritative resources for company news, growth prospects, or key competitors. Find contact information for company officers. Learn to locate information as reported in newspapers, trade journals or magazines on new, small, or regional companies.

**Classes are open to Mechanics' Institute members and guests, are free, and are held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor classroom unless otherwise noted. Advance registration is required for most classes, due to limited space: call 415.393.0102 or go to our website and click on the class title.**

<http://www.milibrary.org/class>

## INTRODUCTION TO SELF PUBLISHING



### Saturdays, September 8 and 15, 2:00 - 4:30 pm 3RD FLOOR CLASSROOM

*Are you a writer with a manuscript, or a great idea that's ready to become a book? Are you a reader who is curious about the revolution that has swept away book stores while launching thousands of new authors?*

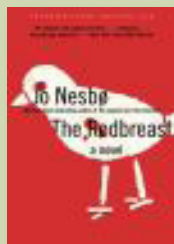
Back by popular demand, this two-session tour of the self-publishing process, taught by author and indie-publisher Carol Verburg, will guide you to an informed decision on whether and how to publish your book. Learn how to create a publishing plan, sift through the options for putting your book together, and launch your book into the world. Fees for this class: \$95 members/\$115 non-members, payable at registration.

To register, go to our website and click on the class title; Introduction to Self Publishing. <http://www.milibrary.org/class>  
For more information contact Sharon Miller at 415.393.0113 or [smiller@milibrary.org](mailto:smiller@milibrary.org).



# BOOK DISCUSSIONS

**New Book Group Forming! See page 8 for more details.**

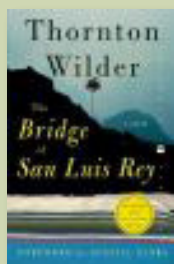


**Monday, September 18, Noon; no registration required**  
**Brown Bag Mystery Readers' Book Group**

***The Redbreast***

JO NESBO

Awarded "best Norwegian crime novel ever written" in 2004. Two story lines interweave to create work for Harry Hole, a troubled alcoholic police officer who finds himself dealing with unfinished business from World War II.

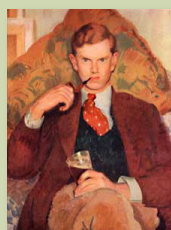


**Tuesday, September 18, Noon; no registration required**  
**Fiction You Wish You Had Read**

***The Bridge of San Luis Rey***

THORNTON WILDER

Wilder explores the question: Is there a direction and meaning in lives beyond the individual's own will? Read the book that garnered the Pulitzer Prize in 1920, and inspired four films, an opera and a puppet play in recent years. Perhaps best known for his plays, Wilder was a prolific novelist who focused on the human condition over the passage of time.



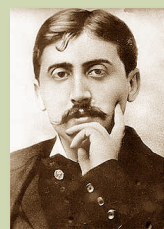
**Thursday, November 1, 6:00 pm; registration required (see below)**  
**Forgotten Classics**

***Brideshead Revisited***

EVELYN WAUGH

A twentieth century author of international fame, Waugh is known as a "devastating and effective" satirist. This, his most controversial and Catholic novel, captures upper class Oxford life in the 1920s in an exquisite period piece. It was a best-seller when published in 1945, to an audience weary of war. **Advance registration required, go to our website and click on "Book Discussions"**

<http://www.milibrary.org/discussion>.



**The 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. **The Proust Group**, held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:30 pm, will start the new semester with volume 3 of *In Search of Lost Time (The Guermentes Way)*, and continue on with volume 4. **The World Literature Group**, held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 6:45 - 8:00 pm, will begin the year with Flaubert and Zola, then move to a series of Russian novels. The new semester begins on September 12, and both groups welcome new members. Fees for the new semester are \$65 for MI members/\$95 for non-members, should be paid by October 10 for each group. For more information, contact [mark@tempsperdu.com](mailto:mark@tempsperdu.com) or [smiller@milibrary.org](mailto:smiller@milibrary.org)

**Advance registration required, please see our website:** <http://www.milibrary.org/discussion>.

**Information:** 415.393.0118 or Diane Lai [dlai@milibrary.org](mailto:dlai@milibrary.org).

All readings are available at the 2nd floor Circulation desk. All Book Discussions are held in the 4th floor Board Room.

# Chess

INTERNATIONAL MASTER JOHN DONALDSON,  
DIRECTOR OF THE CHESS ROOM



The Mechanics' Institute and Portland Chess Clubs renewed their rivalry after a hiatus of more than 90 years this summer. The friendly match, held on six boards, with each team fielding a master and then a player from each of the next five rating classes from Expert to Class D, saw the Mechanics' Institute win by the narrowest of margins -  $3\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$ .

Initially it looked like the Mechanics' would win the match going away. Scott Poling on board 4 scored first blood for the Mechanics' Institute and Mechanics' Trustee Michael Hilliard, a piece ahead on board 5, looked like he would make it 2-0, but his opponent Mark Hanna found a tactical trick that turned the tables. No sooner was the score tied than Mechanics' captain Payam Afkham-Ebrahimi won on board three to again put San Francisco in the lead.

The marquee matchup on board one, between FIDE Masters Andy Lee of the Mechanics' and Nick Raptis for Portland, was a topsy-turvy affair with both players having chances to win at various times in the game and the final result of a draw was a fair one.

Portland equalized the score with a win on the bottom board and this left board 2 to be the decider. Todd Rumph essayed a Staunton Gambit against Mike Janniro's habitual Dutch Defense. Todd had the very slightest of advantages before Mike allowed a combination that allowed White to win a bishop and knight for a rook. Play went into an ending in which Todd had winning chances but Mike's rook was especially active. Only a blunder on move 47 by Black in time pressure insured the Mechanics' would win the match  $3.5 - 2.5$ . Counting the three previous matches, played by telegraph in 1919-1921, the score between the clubs is now 3-1 in favor of the Mechanics'.



The Mechanics' team versus Portland - (l-r) Michael Hilliard, David Olson, Scott Poling, Andy Lee, Todd Rumph and Payam Afkham-Ebrahimi

## *Portland $2\frac{1}{2}$ - San Francisco $3\frac{1}{2}$*

1. FM Nick Raptis 2323  $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$   
FM Andy Lee 2292
2. Michael Janniro 2000 0-1  
Todd Rumph 2179
3. Jason Cigan 1906 0-1  
Payam Afkham-Ebrahimi 1873
4. Bob Malone 1785 0-1  
Scott Poling 1788
5. Mark Hanna 1552 1-0  
Michael Hilliard 1494
6. Harry Buerer 1286 1-0  
David R. Olson 1400

**Portland was White on boards 1, 3 and 5.**

(Chess continued on next page)

Information & registration: 415.393.0110, [chessroom@milibrary.org](mailto:chessroom@milibrary.org), or <http://www.chessclub.org>.

## Chess, continued

### Chess for Women

Sundays, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

TAUGHT BY EWELINA KRUBNIK

FUNDED BY A GIFT IN MEMORY OF R. MARTIN WISKEMANN

### Tuesday Night Events

September 4, 11, 18, 25  
5:15 pm – 6:15 pm

LECTURES BY IM JOHN DONALDSON

6:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Henry Mar Tuesday Night Marathon

### Wednesday Night Blitz

September 5, 12, 19, 26  
6:30 pm – 8:50 pm

DIRECTED BY JULES JELINEK

### Thursday Night Lessons

September 6, 13, 20, 27  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

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

### Saturday Morning Chess Class for Kids

September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
10:30 am – 12:30 pm

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

### Tournaments

Saturday, September 8  
10:30 am – 3:00 pm  
Scholastic Quads

Saturday, September 15  
10:00 am – 8:00 pm  
12th Annual Howard Donnelly Memorial G/45

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Get yourself out of a legal jam

SHARON MILLER,  
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

**D**o you know the Library has a large collection of self-help legal books for you to borrow? Not many members do, so we are moving them to the 3rd floor of the Library, on shelves along the wall behind the Service Desk. We have purchased self-help legal books from Nolo Press, a Berkeley company, since they began publishing them in 1971, and we update the collection with new editions regularly.

Whether you have questions about your will, legal guardianship of a minor, starting a business in California, how to fight a ticket, or dozens of other legal matters pertaining to life and business in California, we have you covered. In addition to the collection of books, their website, <http://www.nolo.com/> provides legal forms and assistance in finding a lawyer.

The books can be checked out for 28 days, and renewed twice. If you need help finding them, ask staff on the 3rd floor of the Library.

**I**f estate planning is a question on your mind these days, also look to the Mechanics' Institute's website for a free, non-partisan mini-course that clarifies the steps and decisions involved. Click on the **Donate** tab on the red bar that runs across the top of any Institute page, and look for **Estate Planning** on the left menu list. *(There is no commercial message asking you to donate to the Institute included in this course.)*

(Library News continues on last page)

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

**September 28, 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Book'toberfest

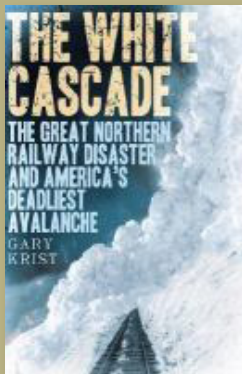
The M.I. Library is proud to announce our **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Book'toberfest** on Friday September 28. Last year we toasted our members who had recently published books with local craft beer. This year, we'd like to fete our friends and members who are otherwise involved in the publishing industry – editors, writing teachers, book packagers, designers, graphic artists, agents, and more – with a networking opportunity and tradeshow that is reminiscent of our historic industrial fairs (this time with beer).



- ✓ If you are involved in the publishing industry **Book'toberfest** will be a great occasion to advertise YOUR services to our writers and readers!
- ✓ If you are in the process of creating a book, Book'toberfest will help you find the creative genius within the Mechanics' community to make your book GREAT!
- ✓ If you are a reader or a beer connoisseur, you'll love the creative vibe and selection of locally crafted beer!

In addition, look forward to the panel discussion **Brewing up a Good Book: How Local Small Publishers Work to Create a Satisfying Book**, featuring representatives from locally owned publishers Heyday, McSweeney's, and Tachyon Press; and of course, lots of beer tasting, and plenty of conviviality. If you'd like to be involved, need more information, or want to know how you can help, please respond to Taryn Edwards, [tedwards@milibrary.org](mailto:tedwards@milibrary.org), or 415.393.0103. If you'd like to register, please see our website <http://www.milibrary.org/events>.

## LIBRARY NEWS, CONTINUED



### New Book Group: True Adventures

**Tuesday, November 13, 2012**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

The Library is introducing a new book group for those members who relish a gripping adventure tale and are thrilled to discover that the story is true! If you are a fan of Jon Krakauer, Sebastian Junger, or Laura Hillenbrand, then you will enjoy these lesser-known books that have been selected for the 6-month duration of the book group. These non-fiction adventure books range from historical events such as the sinking of the whaleship *Essex*, a story

of survival on the Peruvian mountains, to the tale of a World War II escape and rescue mission.

November book selection: *The White Cascade: the Great Northern Railway Disaster and America's Deadliest Avalanche*, by Gary Krist.

Reservations required for the November meeting, please see our website to register <http://www.milibrary.org/discussion> or call 415.393.0102. For more information, please contact Diane Lai at [dlai@milibrary.org](mailto:dlai@milibrary.org) or at 415.393.0118.



57 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94104  
[www.milibrary.org](http://www.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

### Important Numbers

Circulation: 415.393.0101  
Reference: 415.393.0102  
Events Reservations: 415.393.0100  
Library E-mail: [reference@milibrary.org](mailto:reference@milibrary.org)

Taryn Edwards, Interim Editor