How many times have you rolled your eyes and sighed when someone starts telling you about his great grandfather? When you ask Lee Bruno about his, he is surprisingly circumspect — perhaps too much so.

Lee Bruno’s gorgeous volume *Panorama: Tales from San Francisco’s 1915 Pan-Pacific International Exposition* is a testament to “the City that knows how”, the Exposition, and the remarkable vision of Reuben Brooks Hale, the author’s great grandfather.
EVENTS & SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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

On the Street Where You Live - A San Francisco Series
As the Mid-Market area goes through vast transformation with the construction of MUNI’s Central Corridor and Central Subway, and a new intermingling of arts, theatre, and technology companies moving in or moving back-- the revitalization of this major intersection will have an important impact on the City. This series looks back at the icons of Market Street and opens discussion about urban design and commerce for the future.

Thursday, February 19, 6:00 pm
On Track: A Field Guide to San Francisco’s Streetcars and Cable Cars (Heyday)
AUTHOR RICK LAUBSCHER IN CONVERSATION WITH RATNA AMIN, TRANSPORTATION POLICY DIRECTOR, SPUR (SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING AND URBAN RENEWAL ASSOCIATION)

Cosponsored by Market Street Railway and SPUR
Part travel guide, part civic and engineering history, On Track: A Field Guide to San Francisco’s Streetcars and Cable Cars provides the remarkable stories behind each vehicle and examines the impact the fleet has on San Francisco’s infrastructure and demographics.

Detailed illustrations and specs accompany the description of each vehicle. On Track also shows riders how to get the most enjoyment out of this unique transportation system from avoiding long lines and choosing the best seats, to suggestions for several ride-and-walk tours that cover the City’s great sites.

Rick Laubscher is a fourth-generation San Franciscan who fell in love with streetcars as a child, when his mother took him downtown on an “iron monster” through the Twin Peaks to see the circus. He worked as a broadcast reporter in San Francisco, then as a corporate executive, where he began his advocacy for vintage streetcar service. He now operates his own strategic communications consultancy, Messagesmith, and serves as president of the nonprofit Market Street Railway. Members of MI, MSR and SPUR Free; Public $15

MARCH PREVIEW

Thursday, March 19, 6:00 pm
Shrinks: The Untold Story of Psychiatry (Little, Brown and Company)
JEFFREY A. LIEBERMAN, MD

Psychiatry has come a long way since the days of chaining “lunatics” in cold cells and parading them as freakish marvels before a gaping public. But, as Jeffrey Lieberman, MD, reveals in his extraordinary and eye-opening book, the path to legitimacy for “the black sheep of medicine” has been anything but smooth. In Shrinks, Dr. Lieberman traces the field from its birth as a mystic pseudo-science through its adolescence as a cult of “shrinks” to its late blooming maturity – beginning after World War II – as a science-driven profession that saves lives. With fascinating case studies and portraits of the luminaries of the field - from Sigmund Freud to Eric Kandel – Shrinks is a gripping and illuminating read, and an urgent call-to-arms to dispel the stigma of mental illnesses by treating them as diseases rather than unfortunate states of mind.

Members Free; Public $15
Friday, February 6
North Dallas Forty (1979)
DIRECTED BY TED KOTCHEFF
Mac Davis, Charles Durning
This biting, inside-the-huddle exposé of the exploitation of NFL players remains one of the greatest sports movies ever made.
Special guest: writer, director and actor J. P. Allen (Love and Demons)

Friday, February 13
Afterglow (1997)
DIRECTED BY ALAN RUDOLPH
Julie Christie, Jonny Lee Miller
Nolte and Christie are simply wonderful in this poignant, grown-up fable of two unhappily married couples whose paths cross.

Friday, February 20
Who’ll Stop the Rain (1978)
DIRECTED BY KAREL REISZ
Tuesday Weld, Michael Moriarty
A cynical Vietnam vet is conned by a fellow ex-Marine into smuggling heroin in a crackling, downbeat thriller.
Special guests: film critics Richard Von Busack (Metro Silicon Valley) and Kelly Vance (East Bay Express)

Friday, February 27
48 Hrs. (1982)
DIRECTED BY WALTER HILL
Eddie Murphy, James Remar
A no-nonsense San Francisco cop pairs up with a wisecracking con man to catch a psychotic killer in this smart, exciting buddy movie.

Information & registration: 415.393.0100 or milibrary.org/events. All events are held in the 4th floor Meeting Room and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Our members only Book Groups select, read, and discuss books of a particular type or genre. Members lead the discussions, new members are always welcome, and registration is not required (unless otherwise specified). Please note that Book Groups are not author events and the authors will not be present during the discussions.

**Frog Music**
by EMMA DONOGHUE
**Monday, February 9, Noon**
**Brown Bag Mystery Readers’ Book Group**
Summer of 1876: San Francisco is in the fierce grip of a record-breaking heatwave and a smallpox epidemic. Through the window of a railroad saloon, a young woman called Jenny Bonnet is shot dead. The survivor, her friend Blanche Beunon, is a French burlesque dancer. Over the next three days, she will risk everything to bring Jenny’s murderer to justice—if he doesn’t track her down first. (annotation courtesy of ipage.ingramcontent.com) Members Only. Walk-ins Welcome.

**Wednesday, February 11 and 25, 5:30 pm**
**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 discusses Proust’s *In Search of Lost Time*, vol.1 (*Swann’s Way*), from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. From 6:45 – 8:00 pm, the World Literature Group discusses Proustian-inspired works. These groups are now closed to additional registrations. For more information, contact Dr. Calkins at mark@tempsperdu.com or Diane Lai at dlai@milibrary.org. See page 6 for information about the new semester beginning on March 11th.

**A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man**
by JAMES JOYCE
**Tuesday, February 17, Noon**
**Fiction You Wish You Had Read**
*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* is a semi-autobiographical novel by James Joyce, first serialized in *The Egoist* from 1914 to 1915 and published in book form in 1916. It depicts the formative years in the life of Stephen Dedalus, a fictional alter ego of Joyce and a pointed allusion to the consummate craftsman of Greek mythology, Daedalus. (annotation courtesy of ipage.ingramcontent.com) Members Only. Walk-ins Welcome.

**Of Time and the River: a legend of man’s hunger in his youth**
by THOMAS WOLFE
**Tuesday, February 19, 6:00 pm**
**Forgotten Classics**
The book chronicles the maturing of Wolfe’s autobiographical character, Eugene Gant, in his desperate search for fulfillment, making his way from small-town North Carolina to the wider world of Harvard, New York City, and Europe. In his boldly passionate novel, Wolfe examines the passing of time and the nature of the creative process, as Gant slowly but ecstatically embraces the urban life, recognizing it as a necessary ordeal for his birth as a writer. (annotation courtesy of ipage.ingramcontent.com) Members Only. Registration Required.

Information & registration: Diane Lai at 415.393.0118, dlai@milibrary.org, or milibrary.org/events/book-group-meetings. A copy of each book is available at the 2nd floor Circulation desk. All Book Discussions are held in the 4th floor Board Room.
Panorama
(continued from page 1)

Hale was a far sighted entrepreneur, president of the Merchants’ Association, who planted the idea of hosting a grand Exposition – timed with the opening of the Panama Canal – in the minds of San Francisco’s civic leaders in 1904. Unfortunately, the earthquake and fire of 1906 naturally put plans on hold. As the city and residents struggled in the aftermath of the disaster, Hale pushed his idea – presenting it at a “reconstruction dinner” held at the Saint Francis Hotel on July 25, 1906 for the San Francisco Merchants’ Association. In a speech, “calculated to rally each and every businessman in the audience and challenge their collective entrepreneurial can-do spirit” Hale noted that, “San Franciscans have the reputation of being big men, working out big problems, in a big way.”

The City would prove Hale correct. The resulting Exposition, which opened February 20, 1915 and lasted for ten months, would be hugely successful – “the largest public gathering in the United States to date” and proof that San Francisco was not only reborn, but a center of culture and inspiration.

Bruno’s book is not designed to be a “history of the Fair” but rather a compendium of Fair experiences. In thirty-four pithy essays, Panorama shares the stories of the visionaries, builders, innovators, performers, artists, and visitors of the Exposition. The essays, coupled with the lush images of scenery, people, and ephemera enable the reader to glean a holistic understanding of the Exposition and an appreciation of how it transformed San Francisco into the amazing place it is today. PPIE was more than a fair – it was a beautiful and rollicking dream, a glimpse of the future and an extraordinary time of optimism, wonder, and camaraderie. Lee Bruno’s book conveys those sentiments and more. I hope you enjoy it and I’m sure you will agree that Reuben Brooks Hale would be proud of Panorama.
Tuesday, February 3, 12:00 - 1:00 pm
First Tuesday TED Talk
4th Floor Meeting Room
Bring your lunch and curiosity to talk about ideas, stories, and concepts with fellow Mechanics’ Institute members and staff. This month we’ll watch a video from October 2014 of Alessandra Orofino talking about fixing our cities using a mix of tech and old-fashioned human connection. An informal discussion will follow the viewing. Walk-ins Welcome.

Wednesday, February 18, 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Outlook Basics
3rd Floor Classroom A
This class teaches the fundamentals of Microsoft Outlook. Learn how to add contacts to the address book, schedule appointments in the calendar, compose and send messages, and work with email attachments. If you have a laptop running Outlook, feel free to bring it to class. Library laptops will be available on a first-come-first-served basis. Registration Required.

Thursday, February 12, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Investment Information on the Web
3rd Floor Classroom A
Attendees will learn how to access free and authoritative investment information focused on publicly traded companies, covering stocks, mutual funds, and industry surveys. We’ll explore company profiles, corporate developments and earnings prospects, valuation, stock rating services and screeners, trading statistics and financial reports. Websites that are surveyed include Yahoo! Finance, MSN Money, Marketwatch, Google Finance, Bloomberg.com, SmartMoney, and Morningstar. Also presented is a brief overview of two web-based Library subscriptions - ValueLine Resource Center and Standard & Poor’s NetAdvantage. Registration Required.

Thursday, February 26, 12:00 - 1:00 pm
Morningstar Investment Research Center
3rd Floor Classroom A
Morningstar is the premier source of unbiased information for thousands of mutual funds, and a respected source of information on stocks. Learn the three different ways of utilizing Morningstar Investment Research Center: how to search for mutual fund or stock reports by name or ticker symbol; how to generate a list of investments that meet particular criteria using the Screeners feature; and, how to analyze your securities portfolio, look for strengths and weaknesses, and risk factors. Class attendees will also be shown how Morningstar Investment Research Center reports may be printed or downloaded. Registration Required.

Information and registration: 415.393.0102 or milibrary.org/events/learn. All classes are held in the 3rd floor classrooms and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.

The Proust Society of America: San Francisco Chapter
NEW SEMESTER!
2nd & 4th Wednesdays, beginning March 11th, 5:30 pm

Under the leadership of SFSU lecturer, Dr. Mark Calkins, Mechanics’ Institute offers two bi-weekly discussion groups, on a semester basis. This semester The Proust Group, 5:30-6:30 pm, will read and discuss Proust’s In Search of Lost Time, Vol. 2 – In the Shadow of Young Girls in Flower (Modern Library translation); The World Literature Group, 6:45-8:00 pm, plans to read and discuss Boccaccio’s Decameron, Gombrowicz’s Pornographia, de Pisan’s The Book of the City of Ladies and Ariosto’s Orlando Furioso. The new semester begins on March 11th, and both groups welcome new members.

Fees for the new semester (per group) are $70 for MI members/$100 for non-members; payable when you register online. For more information, contact Dr. Calkins at mark@tempsperdu.com. Online registration required at milibrary.org/events.
Seventeen-year-old Yian Liou of Alamo is the winner of the 2015 Neil Falconer Award for the highest rated player in Northern California under the age of 18 on the December 2014 United States Chess Federation rating list. Yian, who earned his International Master title this past summer, is rated 2502 and earns that amount in cash.

This was Yian’s last year of eligibility. The second and third players this year, International Master Kesav Viswanadha (2413) and Fide Master Cameron Wheeler (2381), are both eligible in 2016 in what promises to be a hard fought competition.

Previous Winners
- 2000 Vinay Bhat
- 2001 Vinay Bhat
- 2002 Vinay Bhat
- 2003 Michael Pearson
- 2004 Nicolas Yap
- 2005 Matthew Ho
- 2006 Matthew Ho
- 2007 Nicolas Yap
- 2008 Sam Shankland
- 2009 Sam Shankland
- 2010 Steven Zierk
- 2011 Daniel Naroditsky
- 2012 Daniel Naroditsky
- 2013 Daniel Naroditsky
- 2014 Yian Liou
- 2015 Yian Liou

Bhat, Shankland and Naroditsky have all earned their Grandmaster title since receiving the Falconer. Shankland is currently among the top 100 rated players in the world and Naroditsky is number seven under 21.

Chess for Women
Sunday, February 1, 8, 15, 22
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Taught by Ewelina Krubnik
Funded by a gift in memory of R. Martin Wiskemann

Tournaments
Saturday, February 7
10:00 am – 8:00 pm
15th Annual Henry Gross Memorial G/45

Tuesday Night Events
February 3, 10, 17, 24
5:15 pm - 6:15 pm
Lecture by IM John Donaldson
6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
Winter Tuesday Night Marathon

Wednesday Night Blitz
February 4, 11, 18, 25
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Directed by Jules Jelinek

Saturday Morning Chess Class for Kids
February 7, 14, 21, 28
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Taught by International Master Elliott Winslow

Information & reservations: 415.393.0110 or chessclub.org.
On February 20, 1915, the gates were thrown open to the Panama Pacific International Exposition, the official opening celebration of the newly completed Panama Canal. Hailed by some as the most wondrous world fair of all time, the PPIE boasted 635 acres of palaces, gardens, exhibitions, art and music, amusements, livestock shows, feats of daring, and innovations that heralded the future. Historic figures from all walks of life visited the fair, along with more than 19 million others during its nine month run. The PPIE also proclaimed San Francisco’s miraculous rebirth after the 1906 earthquake and marked California’s emergence as an international powerhouse and player on the Pacific Rim.

On February 21, 2015, a day-long community event will honor the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Pacific International Exposition and will kick-off a year of Centennial events. A variety of educational activities for families and adults are planned, along with viewing of exhibitions and entertainment. The PPIE introduced the Ukulele to the United States, causing it to become the rage of its day. Lead by a Ukulele Band of local players, the community will be invited to bring their Ukes and play along at the Ukeathon. For the complete schedule of events visit ppie100.org.