

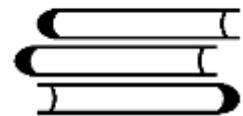
Casanova woos Europe: March 12 art docent presentation



Francis Hayman's painting featuring actors in the play "The Suspicious Husband."

Giacomo Casanova was more than a famous flirt; he influenced and documented social culture throughout 18th century Europe.

Learn more at FAL's March 12 art docent lecture at the Alameda Main Library, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The evening features a docent from the Legion of Honor, where an exhibit on Casanova is showing through May 28.



**Book donations,
volunteers needed for
May sale**
See page 2

For your to-do list

- ✓ **Sign up for the Friends new e-newsletter:** Stay in the loop as FAL transitions to an electronic newsletter. Be sure we have your current email address. Send it to info@alamedafriends.com or sign up on the newsletter page of our website (www.alamedafriends.com).
- ✓ **Use Amazon Smile when you order online:** FAL can benefit when you shop on Amazon. Just sign up for Amazon Smile at www.smile.amazon.com and when asked what charitable organization you want, select Friends of the Alameda Free Library. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the FAL. If you find yourself on the traditional Amazon site, just go to AmazonSmile. All the items will remain in your shopping cart and you can check out on the AmazonSmile site.

Book Sale Update: Books, volunteers needed for May 4-6 sale

New: early opening Friday, special discounts added Saturday afternoon

Friday Preview Sale	May 4, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. (note earlier start time)	\$5 entry or complimentary ticket
Saturday Sale	May 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Free entry
Sunday Sale	May 6, Noon to 4 p.m.	Free entry

The May Book Sale at the Al DeWitt Officers' Club, 641 W Red Line Avenue, Alameda is coming soon. We have an amazing selection of books in over 30 categories for you to browse.

- Friday night offers the best selection of books. We will be opening half an hour earlier, at 6 p.m, to provide you even more time to shop.
- Saturday provides a full day of leisurely shopping and at 3 p.m. we have added some discount sales of media and other categories.
- As usual the special Sunday clearance sale offers everything for \$4 a bag or \$5 a box and you can load up on your summer reading.

We provide plenty of free parking and the friendliest volunteers to help you. Remember, cash and checks only.

Volunteers Needed

If you volunteered for the October sale, we will be contacting you in the next few weeks about available shifts for the sale. If you are a new volunteer, complete the online volunteer form at alamedafriends.com/volunteer. Check the "book sale" area of interest box.

Shifts are generally three hours. Friday morning set-up volunteers will gain first access to the books and can purchase a box of books each. Friday, Saturday and Sunday Sale volunteers will receive a coupon (\$4 value) to purchase a bag of books on Sunday.

- Cashiers & Precounters: Tally up the books and collect cash from customers.
- Booksitters & Handtruck Drivers: Help customers check their boxes of books while they shop and transport them out to their cars.
- Table Organizers: Help staff keep books organized on the tables, assist book sitters and help customers with books.
- Volunteer Check In: Assist with check in of volunteers.
- Friday Book Set-up: Unpack books from boxes and organize on the tables.
- Sunday Break Down: Break down work stations, pack up remaining books, load truck and break down empty boxes.
- Advertising Support: Provide support to the advertising team – post flyers, set up signage, post online promotions, contact local groups, etc.
- Photographer- Photograph sale activities on different days of the event for future promotional materials.

Donations Needed

Clear out those book shelves now and donate your books to the library. We would love to include your new or gently used books, DVDs or CDs in our upcoming sale.



- Books should be in saleable condition so we cannot accept books that are torn, dirty, stained or have been written in.
- We cannot accept VCR or cassette tapes, encyclopedias, textbooks more than 10 years old or books written in languages other than English.
- Detailed requirements are online at www.alamedafriends.com/what-we-do/used-book-sale.
- Donations can be dropped off at our sorting room off the alley at the Main Library on Mondays from 9-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m. Or leave small quantities of donations on the carts in Dewey's Friends Café during library hours.

Don't wait or even hesitate, we need time to process the books in order to include them in the sale.

Thanks for supporting the library.



Meet Friends board member Eileen Savel

What are your earliest memories of reading and books?

I remember my mother reading Robert Louis Stevenson poems from his collection, "A Child's Garden of Verses" to me at the age of four. I enjoyed hearing "*The Swing*", "*The Land of Counterpane*" and "*My Shadow*". As a child, I loved walking to our neighborhood library, having my own library card, and choosing my own books to read. Our librarian made good suggestions and encouraged us youngsters to read often.



Do you enjoy "actual" books? Ebooks? I prefer to read "actual" print books, but think it's wonderful that our library offers many different options for patrons.

What are you reading these days? I am reading "Strangers in Their Own Land" by Arlie Russell Hochschild. Hochschild is an influential sociologist from Berkeley, CA who visits with and befriends locals in Lake Charles, Louisiana for several years. She studies the country's deep political divide, and shares over 13 of her interviews.

You are hosting a literary dinner party in your favorite Alameda restaurant. Which authors (alive, dead or imaginary) would you invite and why? This is a difficult question to answer because I like so many authors and so many restaurants. I would invite Wallace Stegner, Joyce Carol Oates, Robert Haas, Grace Paley, Robert Frost, and chef/author Alice Waters of Chez Panisse fame.

Tell us a bit about your personal involvement with the Friends, the Free Library Foundation...

I am grateful to volunteer with a wonderful team dedicated to raising funds for our libraries' many needs. Our team also facilitates amazing events for children and adults. Much of my energy goes toward finding excellent musicians for our Fall Live @ the Library concert series. This year I joined the many volunteers for our library book sales. The Book Sale is so much fun and produces excellent revenue which is used to support our library. I highly recommend Live @ the Library and the book sale to anyone wanting a way to volunteer in Alameda!

What are your hopes for the future of the Alameda Free Library? I hope that our library remains a vital resource for our community, and that we explore new opportunities such as a county consortium, enabling us to expand and grow our offerings.

President's Board report: January meeting

Dewey's Café is looking for ways to reduce waste and will contact library cafes in other cities for best practices in managing a café.

The Docent Program discussed plans for the Lunar New Year program at Bay Farm Library on February 10 with storytellers from the Asian Art Museum and the docent lecture from the Fine Arts exhibit, Casanova, the Seduction of Europe, on March 12.

2018 is the tenth anniversary for Live @ the Library and Eileen Savel is already locating performers. We will celebrate the tenth anniversary during the Fall series.

There are several volunteer opportunities with the café on weekdays and for the Live @ the Library concert committee.

The Board reviewed its very productive year in 2017: more than \$60,000 raised to support library programs, the sold-out Live @ the Library series, the popular Dewey's café with tasty treats, the very well-attended Docent lecture program, two successful book sales and an outstanding new team to manage the sales, the Volunteer recognition event, Library staff lunches during National Library Week, and a successful fund raising campaign to support Library programs. While these activities will continue the Board will plan a Saturday planning retreat sometime over the summer to develop a 5 year plan.

--Karen Butter, FAL president

Mission: Friends of the Alameda Free Library

- ✓ To provide a variety of ways to contribute to the ongoing services and growth of the Alameda Free Library for the enjoyment and benefit of the entire community.
- ✓ To act as steward for the library and its many services and programs through advocacy, volunteerism, and fund-raising to supplement public funding.

2018 FAL Officers and Directors

President: Karen Butter

Vice President: Kumar Fansé

Secretary: David Beall

Treasurer: Bill Gibbs

Directors: Eileen Bitten, Luzanne Engh, Marlene Grcevich, Nancy Johnsen Horton, Karen Manuel, Honora Murphy, Billy Reinschmiedt, Carole Robie, Karen Roemer, Eileen Savel, and Jo Winzenread.

Newsletter Editor: Kris Matarrese



P.O. Box 1024
Alameda, CA 94501

Return Service Requested

Coming Events

- **March 12: Casanova art docent presentation**
6:30-8 p.m., Main Library
- **April 8-14: National Library Week**
- **April 9: Divine Bodies art docent presentation**
- **May 4-6: Used Book Sale**
Alameda O'Club

For the latest information on Friends events
check our website, www.alamedafriends.com.

Stay in touch!

Information: info@alamedafriends.com

Become a volunteer: volunteer@alamedafriends.com

Donate funds, services, etc.: donate@alamedafriends.com

