



January 2011

Winner of three Florida Library Association First Place newsletter awards and the national ALTAFF 2009 "Best Friends Newsletter" award

Florida author talks about her stellar debut novel at February 2 luncheon

Meet Johanna Moran, the sparkling author of the incredible novel, *The Wives of Henry Oades*



Two women discover they're both rightfully married to the same man. Is that the crux of your story?

The heart of the story lies in the relationship between Margaret & Nancy, certainly as it pertains to their husband in common, but it goes beyond that. *The Wives of Henry Oades* honors women, their tenacity and their ability to shoulder both the absurd and the impossible.

New York Times best selling author Jamie Ford calls your book a stellar debut novel. What writing preceded this overnight success?

If by "overnight success" you mean sixteen years...I wrote two novels before "Wives," both of which remain under the bed.

Kirkus Reviews referred to your "understated, salty wit" in the novel. Is that a "right on" observation?

I'd like to think so.

How did you fictionalize a true story?

The old abstract I used was merely a jumping-off place. "Wives" is a work of fiction, a product of research and my imagination.

Which was more difficult for you, the writing or the research?

I love research, so much so that the actual writing often gets put on the back burner.

You were an airline stewardess at age 19. Anything in that experience that might end up in a novel?

My first novel was an airline story. I think it should probably stay where in is—under the bed.

Please tell us what you are working on now.

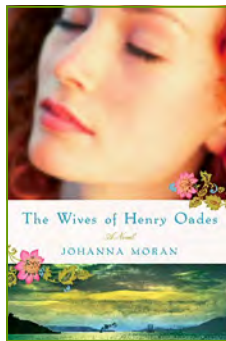
I'm excited about my new project. It's about the friendship between two 19th century prostitutes, one of whom was in fact murdered by Abraham Rothschild.

As a successful first time author, what words of advice can you give to those struggling to "get published?"

I'd advise them to develop a tough hide because rejection, lots of it, is inevitable. And a writer should read, broadly and constantly.

By the way, how did you and your husband come to settle in Sarasota?

John and I planned to stay two years while I finished my degree. Nearly 20 years later, here we are still, with no plans to leave. We love Sarasota.



See top of page 2 for ticket information.

Enjoy Johanna Moran's "understated, salty wit" at the Friends of SCRL's only author luncheon this season. See page 2 for ticket information. Find out more about Johanna Moran at www.johannamorán.com



Two more author appearances, one in February, one in March

JANUARY 26: Reservations close for tickets to FEBRUARY 2 Johanna Moran author luncheon

The Moran luncheon is at 11:30 a.m. at The Club at Grandezza, Ben Hill Griffin Parkway, Estero. Each ticket is \$28. That includes a \$7.60 donation to Friends of SCRL. Mail a check (payable to Friends of South County Regional Library, Inc.) to 21100 Three Oaks Parkway, Estero, FL 33928 or use your major credit card at www.friendsofscrl.org where you will find map/directions to Grandezza. Tickets will be mailed to you. Seats assigned in the order reservations are received. Groups should book tickets together to assure seats together.

Writing twosome appear at SCRL Tuesday, March 22 at 2 p.m.



Patricia Gussin, a retired physician and research scientist, and her husband Robert, a former Chief Scientific Officer for Johnson and Johnson, have cooperated in new ventures since retiring. Together they have become authors and started a publishing company. Patricia's books include *Shadow of Death*, *Twisted Justice* and her latest mystery, *And Then There Was One*. Robert has written *Trash Talk* and together they wrote *What's Next for You?*

Friends of SCRL sponsor Saturday concert series in front of library

Best Young Players

FGCU's Bower Wind Quintet at 2 p.m. January 22

Enjoy the Wind Quintet of FGCU's Bower School of Music. Take your seat in front of South County Regional Library. Members of the Bower Wind Quintet are selected through competitive audition.

Hosted by The Friends of South County Regional Library, our neighbors from the FGC campus to the east will show us how lovely music can sound outdoors. Join us at this Saturday event and hear popular classical selections played at their finest.

No reservations needed and Lots of seats outside library

Best Bands

"The Trio!," jazz elegance at 2 p.m. February 19

Mellow, elegant swingin' jazz in front of South County Regional Library on a February Saturday that only SW Florida can provide.

The Friends of SCRL will be hosting The Trio! composed of Rick Howard on guitar and vocals, "Sir John" on vibes and Dan Heck on bass. Ask friends to join you for this performance of world class jazz artists.

"The Townsman," Big Band, 2 p.m., March 12

The Townsman are acclaimed as exciting to listen to with the most danceable band music in Southwest Florida. This Big Band orchestra performs Swing, Ballads, Latin, Dixieland, Rock and Roll, Waltzes, Polkas and Blues.

Friends of SCRL invite you to come watch, hear, and perhaps also dance to this group's music just outside the library entrance. Make this a Swingin' Saturday Spring event.



Friends of SCRL support programs for Young library goers

Mural making, singing, patch working, dancing, African drumming, mini gardening, Oh My



Part of the painting, drawing, glittering "Under the Sea" mural kids created in SCRL's Young Adult section under direction of Ray Hernandez.



Fiber artist and Seminole descendant Che-Ke-Ka demonstrates the unique art of Seminole Paper Patchwork. Participants learn to tell their own stories in this medium.



A fun-filled evening of decorating sweets with frosting and candies



"Makes me feel like singing!" program by author/singer/song writer Darrell House



Master drummer and choreographer Ndakhte Ndiaye teaches exciting workshop on African drumming.

Kids learn to play hand-carved Djembe drums and learn 1,000-year-old dance steps.



Friends also supported other programs such as "Make Your Own Mini Garden" and "Sew Your Own Ugly Doll," provided refreshments for several events including the "End of Summer" program which drew 68 young people.



T-Shirts for program participants

Thanks to SCRL Young Adults Librarian Jodie Raddatz and to her supervisor, Joanne Parker Childs, for copy and photos on this page.

These are some of the 2010 programs the Friends group supported for youngsters at South County Regional Library.





Thanks to two special volunteers finishing their terms on the FOSCRL Board

What some Friends have to say about Claire Hauenstein and Carolyn Piscitello



The first letters of Board President **Claire** Hauenstein's and Book Sale Queen **Carolyn** Piscitello's names stand for qualities noted below by Assistant Treasurer Steve Shandor and his wife Betty.

Clever
Leader
Able
Insightful
Resourceful
Energetic

Caring
Approachable
Reliable
Organized
Loyal
Young at heart
Necessary

Thanks to Carolyn and Claire who helped make it happen.

There's always a sunny smile on Carolyn's face as she zooms by, sorting and storing donated books or filling the First Dibs shelves. It's amazing how quickly and efficiently she runs the book sales.

And Claire's excellent organizational skills have been key in the progress of our library. Thanks for her stamina and generosity along with her ability to make others give more than they thought they could. She is a visionary.
Beth Nitch

Under Claire's able leadership, the Friends of SCRL has grown to over 280 members and raised over \$100,000 to help our library. She has jumped through hoops to get the non-profit paperwork for our Friends group and has helped other Friends groups complete their paperwork.

Carolyn Piscitello is a human dynamo. She is in the library almost every day organizing, packing, unpacking and putting out books on the First Dibs shelves. Her organizational skills have made the book sales very successful and fun. We appreciate her so much!
Ann Clark

Claire Hauenstein's dedication, know-how and sheer will have made this

organization work for the library. When I was a neophyte she went to the trouble of writing out every step of my duties and constantly answered my questions. She makes it all fit together.

Carolyn Piscitello has the warmth as well as the stamina which have gone so well together to make our book sales successful. No one can make you feel so needed and wanted as Carolyn when there is a book sale to be worked.
Marcella Dooney

Claire Hauenstein is the first president of the Friends of SCRL. I don't think we could have had a better first President. She is well versed in 501(c) 3 non-profit organizations, a decision maker, committed to our organization, has been a hard and diligent worker and a pleasure to work with. Claire has been committed to the goal of making our Friends group a success, and that is what it is, a big success. Thank you, Claire, and your leadership will be missed.

Carolyn Piscitello is truly dedicated to our group and is responsible for most of our fund raising success. She has compiled a group of over 100 volunteers who have helped her with our First Dibs and our book sales. Her committee is truly terrific, working hard to ensure the success of these endeavors. Thank you, Carolyn.
Gretchen Schmidt

Claire is a caring mentor, a professional client, a reliable partner and a dear friend!
Kim Dailey

"Claire & Carolyn" cont. on page 5



From the pen of President Claire Hauenstein

To the Library staff, it has been my pleasure to have worked with such a dedicated group of professionals.

Claire Hauenstein

It doesn't seem possible that seven years have flown by so quickly! As my second term as president draws to a close I've had time to reflect on all that this group has accomplished since 2004. We've donated over \$100,000 to South County Regional Library including programming, furniture, equipment, supplies, services and two beautiful murals by Donald Martin.

About 75% of our funds come from book sales and ongoing First Dibs cases at the entrance to the library. Around 25% is from memberships which now are at 280+. Without the vision and dedication of our Board of Directors, none of this would have been possible. Over 100 Friends volunteers have worked tirelessly over the years to raise in excess of \$100,000 from the sale of used books under the leadership of Carolyn Piscitello, our "Queen of Books" who also is retiring at the end of January.

To our Board of Directors (and all

previous Board members), volunteers and all who have contributed to these accomplishments in any way, I offer my heartfelt thanks for your support.

To those who will follow on the Board in future years, my wish is for your continued success in support of South County Regional Library.

Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Event

Please plan to join us at the Annual Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 26 at 2 p.m. at South County Regional Library. At a short business meeting, we will review the Friends accomplishments and financial status for 2010, elect seven board members and recognize our wonderful group of Friends volunteers.

Please plan to join us on January 26 for this session and to wish Carolyn Piscitello and Claire Hauenstein adieu as they leave the Board of Directors.

"Claire & Carolyn" from page 4

"Claire is the number one advocate of our library and will be missed."

Claire is terrific as our leader. She is so efficient and organized—our meetings run like clock work. She is the number one advocate of our library and will be missed. I know we can count on her for advice and guidance in the future.

Carolyn is our book maven. It's amazing how much money we have raised through our book sales, and it's due to her organization and the wonderful volunteers she has acquired. She always has a smile on her face and truly loves what she does.
Karen Rockenbach

Carolyn has an enthusiasm and a warmth that are infectious. She also is

one of the hardest working Friends that I have ever known. She truly developed the procedures that the South County Friends still use to plan, organize and execute their successful book sales. Long live the Book Sale Queen!
Linda Holland

Claire had the vision and found those people who could most ably implement it. She has been a wonderful fit for the founding president of FOSCRL. We are indebted to her.

One of those who caught the vision and amiably implemented it through book sales and First Dibs is Carolyn Piscitello. We will miss seeing her!
Andrea Carter



Book Sales and First Dibs continue under new management

Get to know Sandy VandenBossche and Priscilla Lavertu



Sandy (l) and Priscilla at First Dibs shelves

Sandy, how is it that two volunteers are replacing Carolyn?

Carolyn asked us to consider taking over the book sale. We work well together and are good friends.

Priscilla, how is it that both you and Sandy volunteered for this job?

Carolyn has done so much work, it takes two people to replace her.

How long have you two been book sale volunteers for the Friends group?

About 5 years, 15 sales. I have also volunteered at the library the last two years. I'm in the library several times a week anyway, using the many wonderful tools and enjoying programs. I feel I need to give back some of what God has blessed me with.

What changes have you noticed along the way?

Carolyn has worked hard to "fine tune" the sales and has kept beautiful records of her work so I think the volunteers who have helped over the years just know what their roles are.

Tell us about your background.

I come from Rochester, Indiana where I taught elementary music, high school choruses, middle school choruses and then general music for a total of 25 years. My husband Mike and I have been married for 51 years. We have two married sons and seven grandchildren. We have been in Florida part time for 12 years. We return to Indiana summers.

What attracted you to SCRL?

The building is comfortable and inviting. The staff is so friendly and helpful. How can you not love it?

How have libraries changed over your lifetime?

As a child, I was always at the library. My grandmother was a high school teacher and both my parents read a

What are your duties going to be?

An important duty is to make sure the First Dibs book shelves are kept full with the very best donated books. We set up tables for book sales, unpacking and sorting into categories and bringing books to and from storage. The number of volunteers varies with an average of about 75.

Tell us about your family?

Mothering six children took much of my time. As the last child was launched, I worked as a banquet waitress and school bus driver, then became a certified nurse's aid. My husband Don and I have been married 51 years. We have been living part-time in Florida since 1997. In my other life I was a real estate broker. We go home to New Hampshire in the summer to be with the children and grandkids but we are Floridians.

How have you seen libraries change?

For one thing, there's no longer a card file. Another big change is the number

"Sandy" continues on page 7

"Priscilla" continues on page 7

At December Book Sale: \$1,612 worth of books bought by 365 attendees.



All are welcome to the Friends next (bigger) Book Sale
 March 3 (members only) from 2-4 p.m.
 The public sale is March 4 AND 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To all you
 "Friends"
 volunteers:
 Thank you,
 Thank you,
 Thank you.

All members of Friends of South County Regional Library know to bring books of all kinds, DVDs, puzzles and more books to SCRL's service desk before the next Big Book Sale. **Public Sale is a 2-day event.** Bring back books you've found at prior sales for others to buy, take home and eventually bring back. And continue reminding your neighbors to bring their *gently used* books to our favorite library.

Adult programs sponsored by you Friends of SCRL

Seating for these programs is first come, first served in the SCRL Meeting Room



February 3 at 1 and 3:30 p.m. (Two programs) "The Three Mrs. Flaglers at the Ponce." Dianne Jacoby tells the story of Henry Flagler's accomplishments during the Gilded Age as seen through the eyes of his three captivating wives.



February 10 at 2 p.m. "Ikebana Flower Arrangement." Stephanie English demonstrates some of the principles used in this art form.

February 26 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. "Interactive World War II Exhibit presented by re-enactors and Dr. Mark Herman of the Edison College History Department. Herman provides context to the WWII equipment and memorabilia.



March 10 at 1 and 3:30 p.m. (Two programs) "Anne Morrow Lindbergh: An Extraordinary Life" by Jenny Aldrich. Author, aviation pioneer and feminist revealed in an *Hour of Gold* biographical sketch. Flying with Charles Lindbergh, the numbing tragedy of the kidnapping, her flight to the Orient and much more.



March 22 at 6:30 p.m. "The Stories My Clothing Can Tell." Laurie Nienhaus takes you through History's Window of Fashion. South County Library adults and teens will model vintage fashions from the 1880's through the Roaring Twenties. A program for mothers, grandmothers, daughters and granddaughters to enjoy together.

"Sandy" continues from page 6

lot. It amazes me that our libraries now have so much more: computers, CD's, DVD's, concerts, talking books, large print books, foreign books, informational offerings on taxes, fire prevention, tutoring and more.

"Priscilla" continues from page 6

of programs offered to the public, and I'm so glad that our Friends group is making those programs possible. I urge people to take the opportunity to use this library and to volunteer in it.



Friends to Friends

Published three times a year
November, January, March

Friends of South County Regional Library, Inc.
21100 Three Oaks Parkway
Estero, Florida 33928



A few of those who enjoyed the Friends of SCRL
Lisa Unger author luncheon last March.

See our front page for details of this season's only
FOSCRRL author luncheon at the Club at Grandeeza.



Agents, authors, publishers, editors, experiences and answered questions galore. New York Times best-selling author Karen Harper filled our library's meeting room with all that January 12. As she put it,

"It was a lovely group with good questions."

For those who could not attend, Harper will be signing her books at the Waterside shops in Naples on Saturday, March 12 at 2 p.m.

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A call for a newsletter editor

David Hauenstein will step down at the end of the season. This issue marks the twentieth newsletter he's produced since 2004. We've been awarded three "Newsletter of the Year" awards from the Florida Library Association and one national award from Friends of the Library USA. We are most appreciative of David's dedication over the years.

We are currently seeking a newsletter editor to continue this communication vehicle which alerts and informs our membership about Friends happenings and forthcoming events in three issues a year. There are many fine software tools which can now be used to produce a newsletter and with our talented group of members we're sure there is someone who would like to continue this effort. David has agreed to mentor the next editor, as needed, to assure an orderly transition.

Please consider this opportunity and email us at FOSCRRL@aol.com to discuss details.