

# Friends-to-Friends

Supporting and Promoting  
South County Regional Library, Inc.

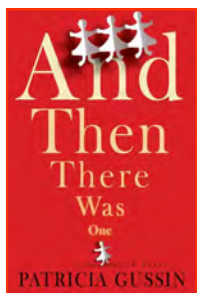
March 2011

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

**Be there March 22 when authors Patricia and Robert Gussin appear at SCRL**



Patricia Gussin  
appears at 2 p.m.



**"My children  
read my latest  
with a degree of  
trepidation."**

*I asked Patricia Gussin—At what point in your busy life in medicine did you start writing books?*

I never thought that I'd write a book. It all started when I had to do a lot of international travel for my job and on those long flights, I took out a yellow pad and started writing. I shocked myself. After a lot of trips I had the first draft of *Shadow of Death*. Then the real work began.

*Has working in medicine while building a family of seven children helped you in writing your psychological thrillers?*

Medicine and family have provided me with a wealth of experience to draw from as well as being a voracious reader myself. So in every book, I have a dose of medicine, a helping of family and a few twists.

*What do your children think of being used as inspiration for the fragile families in your books?*

At first they were all about trying to figure out which kid was them, and who Mom liked best. Now they all read my latest with a degree of trepidation. What's she going to reveal?

*Are any of them budding writers?*

My daughter in law, yes. She just finished an MFA program in creative writing and she's writing fantasy fiction. Maybe the grandchildren. I hope.

*And your husband? What part did he play in the decision to co-write the book, What's Next for You?*

Bob was the driving force. So many people and groups asked us to tell them about how we went from Medicine and Medical Research to Books and Wine, that he decided to put it in a simple book, which we did.

*That book is quite a departure from your psychological thrillers. Are your fans clamoring for another thriller?*

Mostly they want another Laura Nelson book and that will be my next project, *Weapon of Choice*. Laura is a medical student in *Shadow of Death* (1967-71) and a pulmonary surgeon in *Twisted Justice* (1978). *The Test* (2001) and *And Then There Was One* (2010) are not related. But I'm bringing Laura Nelson back in 1985, seven years since the last one. Here she will be facing a bizarre biological terrorism situation.

*Please complete this sentence: The family that writes together .....*

as long as we can write in separate parts of the house. Which we do. We don't want to intermingle Bob's humor with Pat's thriller plots and vice versa. Even when we wrote our book together, we used the "he said" "she said" approach."

**"Gussins"** continued on page 2

This 2 p.m. program is first come, first seated in the SCRL Meeting Room



## 12th Annual Reading Festival Saturday, March 19, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Harborside Event Center  
and Centennial Park,  
Fort Myers River District  
Free Admission  
Details at [readfest.org](http://readfest.org)

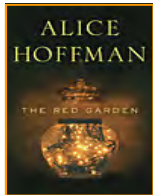
Celebrating the  
Importance of  
Reading

Author Presentations  
Festival Marketplace  
Activities & Entertainment  
eLibrary Demonstrations  
Kids' and Teens' Programs

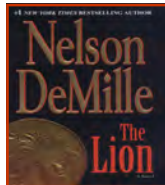
### A few of the authors who will speak at the festival



Keynote speaker, Linda Fairstein, former prosecutor, is one of America's foremost legal experts on crimes of violence against women and children. She's authored a series of crime novels (translated into a dozen languages), which feature Manhattan prosecutor Alexandra Cooper. Her books have debuted on *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The London Times*, and *USA Today's* bestseller lists. Her latest book is *Silent Mercy*. (Linda Fairstein speaks at 1 p.m.)



Alice Hoffman's first novel, *Property Of*, was written at the age of 21. She has published 18 novels, two books of short fiction and eight books for children and young adults. Hoffman's work has been published in more than 20 translations and more than 100 foreign editions. Her latest book is *The Red Garden*. (Alice Hoffman speaks at 11 a.m.)



Nelson DeMille, crime novelist, has authored *By the Rivers of Babylon*, *Cathedral*, *The Talbot Odyssey*, *Word of Honor*, *The Charm School*, *The Gold Coast*, *The General's Daughter*, *Spencerville*, *The Lion's Game* and its sequel *The Lion*. (Nelson DeMille speaks at 12:15 and 2:15 p.m.)

Stay in touch year round at your website: [www.friendsofscrl.org](http://www.friendsofscrl.org)



It's your address for helping your Friends group support our favorite library. Thanks to webmaster Kim Dailey for making it fun to find information, including links to other sites. Tell your friends to visit the site to get an idea of how good it can be to help make our library shine.

"Gussins" from page 1



**What's Next for You?** is the book you two wrote together. Would Mr. Gussin explain the title of his own book, *Trash Talk*?

From Bob: It's the melding of my love of sports and my respect for the environment. I combined these two in the realm of *Trash Talk*. When a group of professional athletes go to a symposium entitled *Trash Talk*, they expect the insulting banter that they love only to find out that it's an environmental meeting, and that gives rise to a whole lot of funny things.



## From the new FOSCRL president's pen

### Accomplishments of Friends of SCRL well worth noting

At its January 26 Annual Meeting, the Friends of SCRL welcomed new president, Karen Katz. A full-time resident of Wildcat Run in Estero, Karen originally comes from Michigan, where she was on the Franklin Village Library Board and worked with the Friends group there.



At the February 2 author luncheon, L to R, Karen Katz, Johanna Moran, Becky Limons, president of the Johanna Moran fan club.

“When I saw the library sign on Corkscrew Road while my husband Stu and I were looking at houses, I knew that this was where I wanted to settle. Having a library readily accessible was very important to me. I have supported the Friends here for several years because I know how much difference a good library can make to a neighborhood.”

In Michigan, Karen worked in both medical research and retail buying during and after college, where she was a Marketing major. After having her first child, she earned a graduate degree in Clinical Psychology and then worked part time in community education for the Birmingham School District. This led to Karen becoming Executive Director of the Michigan Community and Adult Education Association, the first of several jobs in Non-Profit Administration. She has served as Executive Director of the Michigan Asthma and Allergy Foundation, the Women's Economic Club of Detroit and the Michigan Reading Association. Karen also was elected to the Franklin Village Council. Here in Florida, she serves on several committees at Wildcat Run, on the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Education Committee and with LIGHT, a local charity that helps cancer patients with their co-pays and deductible payments.

“When I saw in the Friends newsletter that they were looking for board members, it seemed like a natural fit for me.

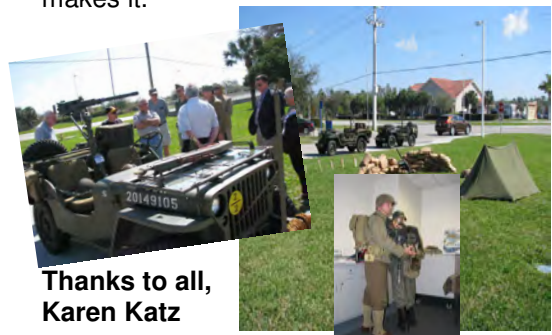
If you are going to devote time and effort to a cause, it should be something you are passionate about, in this case, reading and libraries. Following in the accomplished shoes of past-president Claire Hauenstein will be a major challenge, but with the help of the great Board I have, I think it will be an enjoyable one.”

Congratulations to all for a very successful February 2 luncheon with author Johanna Moran. Claire's report indicated 128 reservations. Kay's basket drew \$301 in ticket sales, for a net profit of \$1,294. 87 evaluations were returned, a good percentage. Of these, 40 were first time attendees and almost all of them were not yet "Friends." Of the 47 returning attendees, 25 were "Friends" and 22 not. Hopefully, exposure to this successful luncheon will result in many new "Friends.”

Also, the concerts and programs the Friends sponsored were successful. That includes the February 3 “The Three Mrs. Flaglers” which drew 70 to the 1 pm show and over 60 to the 3:30 p.m. version.

The February 26 all-day “Interactive World War II” exhibit inside and outside SCRL was a success. Lead organizer Lee Hadscock said:

“I would reasonably estimate that we had 700 people come through during the course of the day. As I was packing up the tent outside, two cars pulled up with their drivers saying they had missed the event and wanting to know when we would do it again. The audience participation is what makes it.”



Thanks to all, Karen Katz

**In Memoriam**  
Ed Lewis,  
Friends member

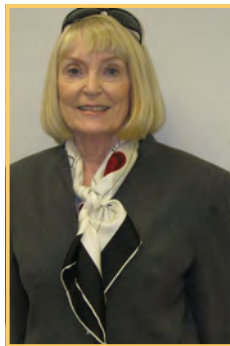


## Welcome to the new Board of the Friends of SCRL



Karen Rockenbach; Priscilla Lavertu, Secretary; Marcella Dooney, Vice President; Gretchen Schmidt, Treasurer; Karen Katz, President; Dorothea Meldner; Kay Howard; Sandy VandenBossche; Pam Hoffman; Ann Thomas; Steve Shandor, Assistant Treasurer.

### *She got to know Florida well before moving here for good*



Marcella Dooney

*After earning her degree in English, Marcella Dooney was a teacher, editor of an in-flight magazine, fund raiser, mother of two and wife of Thomas (Tad) Dooney, an urban planner.*

*They lived for a time in San Antonio, Texas where she worked as a property appraiser. They made their home on a farm with a barn that they rented out for Arabian stallions. A trainer came Saturdays to train her son to handle horses, some of them pretty wild. Then Florida called again. Let Marcella tell the rest of the story.*

Tad and I were always pulled back toward southern Florida no matter where else we went. The people we met, the climate and the opportunities available to a young family were the draw. There was, and still is, an openness about Florida society.

In Miami, I worked in a special library for exceptional children, mainly with speech therapists, reading specialists who dealt with learning disabilities and with psychologists. I helped them find

information, new research on methods of assisting the children, and supplies (tests, games, special literature) they needed to do their jobs.

This led me to earn a graduate degree in library and information science from the University of South Florida. Upon graduation, I worked in a Catholic high school in Miami. I was very proud of the fact that I brought the place from having not even a working typewriter to having an online catalog and a computer lab for the students. I set up library workshops for English classes in how to use the library to do research for college.

In 1999 I rolled into SW Florida on an 18-wheeler U-Haul truck with my ancient car riding on a cushion of wheels behind it all the way from the state of Washington. I began work as the Bookmobile Librarian, fittingly moving from one enormous vehicle to another. Later I transferred to SCRL's reference desk.

I met (in the library) and married Willard Williams in 2003. After retiring in 2008, I joined the Friends of SCRL to stay in touch with the important things libraries do in the community. I know I will be involved with the library in some capacity for the rest of my life.

**There was, and still is, an openness about Florida society.**



## Another book sale, another \$2,500 dollars



**The March 3 - 5 Friends of SCRL Book Sale took in \$2,576. Almost 700 people passed through the doors.**

Kudos to new Chairs Sandy VandenBossche (at right in photo) and Priscilla Lavertu who emerged unscathed. Not a surprise, based on the great training they received from Carolyn Piscitello. Many thanks also to the many volunteers who packed, unpacked, set up, tore down, made change and pitched in. *See you next year.*

Friends book movers caught in the act

— Karen Katz

### *Thanks from two Friends stalwarts*



I sincerely appreciate the warm best wishes which our Friends group and the SCRL staff bestowed on Carolyn Piscitello and me at the Annual Meeting in January. It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the group for the past few years and to work with such energetic people.

— Claire Hauenstein

“Thank You” does not seem adequate to show my appreciation for the many gifts, cake and fantastic card I received at the Annual FOSCRL Meeting. As my “queen of book sales” reign ends, I thank everyone for the help and support that I had for the past 21 book sales. Please continue this help with Sandy & Priscilla.

— Carolyn Piscitello



As our new president Karen Katz points out in her page 3 column, 178 people bought tickets for our February 2 luncheon with author Johanna Moran. As usual, lots of prizes were handed out, including the gift basket won by Sally Van Wagoner. Also as usual, thanks to basket maker Kay Howard who has joined the Board of the Friends of SCRL.



Sally Van Wagoner



Be sure to see SCRL's last program of the season March 22 at 6:30 p.m., "The Stories My Clothing Can Tell." Laurie Nienhaus takes you through the History Window of Fashion. South County Library adults and teens will model vintage fashions from the 1880's through the Roaring 20's.

### Welcome to those who have joined the Friends of SCRL in 2011



Book Worms Unite

James Bianco, Vicky Bowles, David and Barbara Bukovac, Sandor & Dee Cseh, Joan Desfosses, Linda & Franklin Edwards, James and Mary Leary, Joan McDonald, Janis Morrow, Wanda & Russ Nielsen, Mary Obryn, Alan O'Reilly, Jim &

Barbara Garrott, Patricia Hamilton, David Hampton, Denise Koenigs, Joanne & Jerry Phaneauf, Linda Scalley, Emily Schlote, Elaine Small, Mary Smerick, Zola Von Deylen, Raquel Ubarri, Carol Warrell, Reggi Wilson.



## **Friends to Friends**

Published three times a year  
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Friends of South County Regional Library, Inc.  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### **Friends of South County Regional Library, Inc.**

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### **Farewell**

After completing the latest edition of the *Friends to Friends* newsletter, I emerge from my office with satisfaction riding my shoulders, anticipating a walk by the river. As I walk, my mind flies back over the pages and articles and little triumphs of editing and graphics. I walk and think and savor the reflective moment. Through a mixture of fatigue and fulfillment, I see that I have done what each person seeks — to create.

It has not been accomplished without the input of many people, including those who answer my incessant interview questions. Those who catch my errors and make suggestions. Those who feed me with information. Here I will name the names of some of the helpful folks at South County Regional Library. Beth Nitch, Ann Clark, Sally Bissell, Jessica Girlando, Andrea Carter, Joanne Parker, Jodie Raddatz.

It has been an opportunity and honor to serve the members of the Friends and the staff of South County Regional Library as editor of *our newsletter*.

— David Hauenstein