

# Joan Patterson, Still a "Friend" to the Library



A love of reading and a college friend brought Joan Patterson to the Friends of the Modesto Library in 1981. Joan and her family had just moved to Modesto, so naturally her college friend, Peti Taylor, who just happened to be the 1974 founder of FOML, got her involved.

Today, as a very perky 90-year-old, Joan is still a Modesto Library supporter and speaks fondly of her FOML Board experience. Her resumé includes 30 years on the FOML Board and 14 years on the Stanislaus Library Foundation. Joan even has a Foundation award named after her: The Joan Patterson Stellar Achievement Award. It is presented to a volunteer who has fulfilled a long-term, on-going commitment of service to Stanislaus County libraries.

Joan, who grew up near Schenectady, NY, remembers her parents sitting in their living room chairs

reading. So it was no surprise that she and her two siblings grew up reading. The family lived in a rural area so the library wasn't easily accessible, but she recalls that there were always books around the house. One of the books on the shelves must have been War and Peace, because Joan remembers reading that at age eight. The school library is the first library she remembers.

After high school, Joan headed to Cornell University in Ithaca where she met and became good friends with Peti. Joan majored in psychology and then went on to Columbia to become an occupational therapist. Before settling in Modesto, she and her family traveled the country courtesy of the military. Once in Modesto she worked in the mental health field as a patient rehab therapist, work that she considered worthwhile and interesting.

She recalls that in the 1980s FOML was small and not especially prosperous. "But we hung on," she adds. "I always thought it was worthwhile being on the board. I met a lot of interesting people as well." Joan also speaks fondly of all the library staff she met along the way, whether she was on FOML business or just checking out books.

While she was on the board there were memorable donations from the Friends to the library, including the aquarium in the main hall and paintings in the children's department and the library entry area. Money was raised for these projects by book sales. A memorial account funded after Peti's passing paid for children's programming for a number of years. Over the years FOML also donated a piano, benches and tables for the portico, an answering machine for the reference department, and a microfilm reader/printer.

Cultural and literary programs were sponsored

as well. One of these events brought a little controversy with it, but Joan wasn't afraid to step forward and defend the Friends' sponsorship. This, of course was the now-infamous belly dancing incident in 2006. A member of the County board of supervisors didn't feel a belly dancer was appropriate for a library program and the program was canceled, along with a speed dating program. Suddenly Joan found herself speaking before the board of supervisors. "I've never been fearful of standing in front of a crowd," she said, "and it's never bothered me to speak in public."

In 1996, the Stanislaus Library Foundation, established in 1994 to provide funds for items like the children's summer reading program in all 13 libraries, looked to FOML for representation on the Foundation board. Joan joined the Foundation and served until 2010.

Joan has many library memories, but here's her favorite: "I walked into the library one afternoon and under a table were two little girls playing house with their Barbie dolls. I thought to myself that this is the way a library should be. I took that picture in my mind—so charming and so right—and still carry it with me."

--Maree Hawkins

#### **NEW FRIENDS WEBSITE COMING SOON**

As you know, Friends of the Modesto Library is an organization run entirely by volunteers who do as much as we can as quickly as we can. We've known for a while that our website needed to be reworked but other projects have been keeping us too busy to get to it—until now.

A small committee, led by the tireless Ellen Dambrosio, is working to design a new website that should be more attractive as well as easier to navigate. And people wishing to join the Friends or make donations will find it easier to do so online. We're excited for you to see the new site—we'll let you know when it's ready to unveil!

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of the Modesto Library. Copies may be requested by emailing <a href="mailto:info@modestolibraryfriends.org">info@modestolibraryfriends.org</a>
The Friends of the Modesto Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit registered in California. All contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law. (ID#77-0038333)

The Friends promotes goodwill and community support for the Modesto Library, stimulates public awareness of Modesto Library needs, and seeks sources of cultural and educational programs for the Modesto Library.

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of March, June, September and December and are open to all members or interested individuals.

#### Mail:

FOML Modesto Library 1500 I Street Modesto, CA 95354

Online:

www.ModestoLibraryFriends.org

#### Board of Directors 2017-2018 Officers Co-Presidents:

Maree Hawkins, Denise Nordell Vice-President: Pam Pallios Secretary: Jean Haven Treasurer: Jonaca Driscoll

#### **Directors**

Christine Brereton Anne Britton Candace Brody Ellen Dambrosio Marilyn Drew Pat Glattke Cathie Peck Carmen Pedrioli Barbara Quinn Beverly Schlegel

Webmaster: Sheri Darrough

**Newsletter Layout:** Gerbo Designs

Many thanks to



for printing our newsletter

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

When it comes to describing our two years as co-presidents, Denise and I have used a lot of words, including surprising, challenging, joyful, energizing, delightful, exciting, successful, exhausting and fun. But words can never express our gratitude to the FOML board and general membership for your support and friendship. It has been a privilege to work with and for you.



Sharing FOML presidential duties has been an excellent experience. My co-president is task-oriented and knows how to get a job done. In fact, Denise is so good that she's been recruited to serve as your president for another year. I will continue on the board but scale back activities to take some time for myself, time that will include getting to know my soon-to-be-born granddaughter.

At the annual general meeting in March, the membership elected the following slate of officers for the 2018-19 fiscal year which begins July 1: Denise Nordell, president; Pat Glattke, vice president; Anne Britton, secretary; and Jonaca Driscoll, treasurer. Two new board members, Marilyn Drew

and Beverly Schlegel, were also elected to join our ranks.

Each and every FOML member contributes to our success in one way or another. We thank you, whether you are low or high profile. With your help FOML donated more than \$16,000 to the Modesto Library last year. Our "donation" would be much higher if we assigned

all volunteers an hourly rate. So many of you helped in so many ways: at a library program, a fundraising event such as used or new book sale, or came to label free books for the county fair and Día de los Niños/de los Libros. Some of you even assisted library staff to place RFID labels in each piece of material in the county library system. Volunteer bonus: You really do make new friends when you label books or work a used or new book sale!

-- Maree Hawkins, Co-President

## Every Little Bit Helps...

### **SO SMILE!**

Earn \$\$ for Friends of the Modesto Library when Shopping Online with Amazon Smile

Ever-increasing numbers of Americans shop online. I'm one of them; and it's likely you are, too. And according to CNBC's 2017 All-America Economic Survey, 76 percent of shoppers planned to do most of their holiday shopping in one place—Amazon.

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

How does AmazonSmile work? When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization. There is no cost to charitable organizations or to AmazonSmile customers. The shopping experience is identical to Amazon.com with the added benefit that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

If you haven't done so already, please take a minute to register with AmazonSmile next time you shop at Amazon and choose the Friends to receive the donation. (You can search for Friends of the Modesto Library or use this link: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0038333

Unless you're a big spender, most purchases will generate only a few cents, but it all adds up and it's painless, so why not? If you are going to shop at Amazon, anyway, it's great that you can add a charitable component to your shopping, and I hope you will!

--Ellen Dambrosio, Membership Director



# FASCINATING READING?

We're the first to admit it: The bylaws of any organization, including FOML, won't exactly keep you on the edge of your seat. But as a Friends member, you should be familiar with the bylaws, especially with regard to the specific purposes of the Friends of the Modesto Library.

"The purpose of the organization shall be to maintain an association of persons interested in facilities and to support the freedom to read as expressed in the American Library Association's Bill of Rights.\*

- To create public support for an expanding library program.
- 2. To intensify community awareness of the library.
- 3. To encourage gifts for the library.
- 4. To sponsor programs designed to add to the cultural life of the community.
- To provide financial assistance by purchasing items which are of great benefit to the library program, but cannot be purchased from public funds."

## \*Library Bill of Rights

Now you're probably wondering about the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights! This ALA document, first adopted in 1939, affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

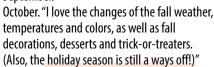
- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

And now you know. Ready for the quiz? --Maree Hawkins

#### 7 things to know about Marilyn Drew

Marilyn joined the FOML Board of Directors in March. We asked her to share her "7 Things" so we could get better acquainted.

- 1. Favorite Color: Blue
- 2. Favorite
  Month:
  September/



- Favorite Movie & Book: Dr. Zhivago; A Tale of Two Cities
- 4. Pet Peeve: People who litter
- 5. Favorite vacation spot: Either Bilbao, Spain or Aptos, California
- 6. Favorite Dessert: Too many to name: A piece of fruit pie, fresh strawberry shortcake, or just about anything chocolate!
- Fun Fact About Me: My husband Tom and I were in kindergarten together. We didn't meet again until our senior year of high school, and then dated for 5 years before marrying.

## **Library Strategic Plan Update**



In 2017, after much work, collaboration and information gathering, County Librarian Diane McDonnell and Library leaders unveiled a 5-year strategic plan, which articulates a clear set of goals

and objectives, setting a "vision for library service that is inspiring and innovative, and which will support the organization in achieving the selected priorities." Guided by the Library's Vision and Mission statements (see below), library staffers and members of the community worked with a consulting firm to develop the plan. In fact, two Friends of the Modesto Library members, Ellen Dambrosio and Christine Brereton, participated in the project. "I was happy to contribute to the library's ongoing effort to improve its service to the community," said Dambrosio. "While working on this committee, I was given the opportunity to hear the perspectives of a variety of interest groups about what the library system should strive to be and do for the community."

"The 2017 -21 Strategic Plan will serve as a flexible management tool, representing the vision and values of Stanislaus County communities, and guiding our library in meeting community needs now and into the future," said McDonnell. "Every new and expanded service and resource

we undertake, including updating guidelines for issuing library cards designed to simplify the process, replacing the public chairs at the Modesto Library with comfortable, functional and attractive seating, and implementing an RFID security system to safeguard library collections and streamline service, is driven by our commitment to the strategic plan and the positive impact on our customers."

The Strategic Plan is a public document, available at https://bit.ly/2ILVPCU.

# Stanislaus County Library System Vision and Mission

Vision: A world in which all people are connected to each other and have access to information, knowledge, and innovative tools for personal development, community engagement, and civic participation.

Mission: Stanislaus County Library engages all members of the community and offers access to information, knowledge, and the tools for innovation and personal development.

# Join the Friends Today!

Friends of the Modesto Library provides funds to enhance the programs and services at the Modesto Library.

Dues are paid on a calendar-year basis (Jan. 1– Dec. 31). Please select a membership level and indicate the amount of your donation.

Name(s)	
Address	
City/ZIP	_
Phone	
Email:	
Today's date:	
Thank you for giving us your email! It reduces our posta us keep in touch.	ge cost and let
Join FOML:	

Sign me up for			
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□ Reader (\$25 - \$49) \$\_\_\_\_\_ □ Storyteller (\$50 - \$99) \$\_\_\_\_\_

□ Novelist (\$100 - \$249) \$\_\_\_\_\_

□ Classic (\$500-\$999) \$\_\_\_\_\_

□ Epic (\$1,000 and above) \$\_\_\_\_\_



Method of payment: \_\_ cash \_\_ check #\_\_\_\_

If paying by check, make payable to FOML. Provide information on form, then mail to:

Friends of the Modesto Library

s PO Box 4565

Modesto, CA 95352-4565

You can also go to http://modestolibraryfriends.org and use the I am a \_\_\_new member \_\_\_ returning member \_\_\_ returning member Donate button to pay with PayPal.

### WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU TO RENEW YOUR FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP IN 2018

Membership dues reset in January, so it is time to renew. Many thanks to the nearly 50% of you who have responded and already made a donation to renew your membership for this calendar year. If you have already done so, why not help us increase our membership by asking a friend, relative, or neighbor to join Friends of the Modesto Library in 2018. It takes just \$25 to officially become a Friend at the Reader level.

You can join by:

- completing and mailing a check with the membership form above
- completing the membership form and dropping it off, with a check, at the library's administrative office
- going to http://modestolibraryfriends.org and clicking the Donate button to pay with a credit card or PayPal

Welcome to these new members who have joined in 2018:

Vicki Block Ryan Dzadosz Cathy Wooley

And a big "Welcome and Thank You!" to our newest business members,
Alfred Matthews & American Chevrolet (David Halvorson).





-- Ellen Dambrosio, Membership Director

# **■**SCHOLASTIC

# Buy 1 Get 1 Free!

Great selections for Summer Reading, Birthdays...Build YOUR home library!

Sponsored by Friends of the Modesto Library

## All NEW books!

For Children & Teens

May 9 -12, 2018 in the Auditorium

Wednesday 12:00 -7:00 p.m.

Thursday 10:00 am-7:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 am- 4:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 am-3:00 pm

For more information (209) 996-1531



We accept Cash, Credit Cards and Purchase Orders.

## Día de los Niños/de los Libros **Draws Hundreds of Young Readers** to the Modesto Library



In spite of the rainy weather, nearly 600 participants showed up at the Modesto Library on April 7 to celebrate Día de los Niños/de los Libros. For FOML board member Anne Britton, this is one of the most thrilling days of the year. "Nothing feels better than being mobbed by children searching for the perfect "forever" book to take home," she said. "I heard, 'You mean I can KEEP it!?!' more

than once. Such a blessing to put books into homes in our community." In fact, 428 brand new books, donated by Friends of the Modesto Library, went home with happy children.

Día is an opportunity for people to get to know the library and all it offers. Anne reports that two older ladies went home to bring young neighbor

children in for their free book. The kids had never been in the library before, but each child left with a book to share at home and toured the Children's Room during their visit. One mom was thrilled to get an English book for one child and a Spanish board book for the other. "This way Dad can read in his native language," she said.

















Friends member *Sonja Knutsen* made a donation in memory of *Betty* Griffith, long-time Modestan and, with her husband Trevor, one of the original owners of Valley Sporting Goods.

Friends members *Anne and George Britton* made a donation in memory of Jared (Jerry) Hawkins, beloved husband of FOML Co-President Maree Hawkins.



Astronomy to Zelda... you'll find it all at the Friends of the Modesto Library's

## ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE ON MAY 5

The Used Book Sale is FOML's largest fundraiser and allows us to purchase materials for the children's library programs as well as meet other needs for our beloved Library.

Thanks to all who have donated books for the sale, which takes place Saturday, May 5 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friends members have been sorting donated books since January! Thousands of used books will entice readers of every genre, so bring a bag to fill up with your finds. Stock up for your summer reading and bring the kids to choose from a great selection of children's books.

Most hardcover books are \$1 and paperbacks are 50 cents. But be

sure to check the Special Price table, featuring coffee table books originally priced as high as \$60 for \$5 as well as audio books on CD priced at a fraction of original prices.

As a bonus, we are located on the portico of the Modesto Library, right next to the Farmer's Market. See you at the sale!

--Pat Glattke, Used Book Sale Chair



## Summer Reading Challenge

All ages can take the Summer Reading Challenge starting Tuesday, May 22, at Stanislaus County Libraries. This year's theme is "Reading Takes You Everywhere." Visit the library to pick up a reading log. In the "30-minute challenge", suggested for readers up to age 8, children mark off a circle on the log for each day they have read or been read to for at least 30 minutes. Participants earn prizes, provided by Friends of the Modesto Library, for every seven days of reading.

In the "Hour Challenge" (for ages 9 to 18 but younger readers may also participate) readers

mark off a square for each hour of reading and may visit the library after seven hours of reading to be entered into a drawing for awesome prizes. Once a log is finished, readers will receive an additional entry into the prize drawing.

And this year, thanks to the generous support of Alfred Matthews, Modesto participants will each receive two free tickets to a family-friendly movie at the State Theater in Modesto in August. Watch for details.

Summer Reading is sponsored by the Stanislaus Library Foundation.

## FOML'S SHINING STARS



Two Friends of the Modesto Library members, Pat Glattke and Denise Nordell, were honored with Shining Star awards at the Library's annual **Volunteer Appreciation & Shining** Star Awards in April. Pat (left in photo) was recognized with the Friends of the Library Award for her tireless work for the Measure S -Save Stanislaus Libraries campaign and her brilliant management of the Friends Used Book Sale. Denise received the Joan Patterson Stellar Achievement Award for her long-time support of the Library, service to Friends of the Library and Stanislaus Library Foundation, and for acting as Campaign Coordinator for the Measure S effort.

### **EVENTS**

Now, you can receive the Library's Monthly Calendar by email

The new and improved calendar email features:

- An engaging format that is easily accessible on your computer or mobile device
- · Highlights of free monthly programs
- An easy-to-print version of the library's calendar of events

Sign up today at http://bit.ly/2D7eURA

## WEEKLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS AT THE MODESTO LIBRARY

## Mondays & Tuesdays, 10:15 & 11:15 am Wiggle Worms

Enjoy storybooks, lap bounces, music, dancing, rhythm activities, fingerplays and more at this special program for babies, active toddlers, and adult caregivers. (20 minutes)

#### Tuesdays, 6:15 pm & Wednesdays, 10:15 am Preschool Story Time

New and classic picture books, flannel board and puppet stories, fingerplays, music and dancing, all for preschoolers aged 3-5 and their caregivers. (30 minutes)

#### Saturdays, 10:15 am

#### **Bilingual Story Time**

Spanish/English picture books, flannel board and puppet stories, fingerplays, music and dancing for all children and their caregivers, particularly geared for ages 3-6. (30 minutes)

#### Thursdays, 6:15 pm

#### Cuentos en Español

Libros nuevos y clásicos, cuentos contados con marionetas o franela, rimas, música y baile para niños de todas las edades con énfasis a aquellos entre los 3 y 6 años de edad y para sus proveedores de cuidado.

#### Wednesdays 3:30 pm

#### **LEGO Play**

Children will have the opportunity to build LEGO® displays for the library. LEGO® play helps children develop fine motor skills. Children under 4 are welcome, but must have direct adult supervision.

#### MAY

#### All Month

#### **All-Teen Craft Fair Sign-ups**

It's that time again, crafters! Visit your local Stanislaus County Library or visit our website to sign up for the 5th Annual All-Teens Craft Fair being held Saturday, June 16 on the Modesto Library Portico. Teens ages 13 - 18 must sign up before June 2. All crafts must be made and sold by teens. For more information, contact the Modesto Library's Children and Teen Services Department at (209) 558-7810.

#### Wednesday, May 2 at 5:30 pm

#### **Couponing Class @ the Modesto Library**

Let the Modesto Money Mavens show you how to shop smart! Enjoy a free presentation on how to use coupons to save money while shopping. Don't miss out on these money-saving tips.

#### Thursday, May 3 from 3:30 - 4:30 pm Game Day

Get your game on in the Children's Dept. Bring the family and play giant versions of Jenga, Dominoes, and more. Ginormous fun? You bet!

#### Saturday, May 5, 8 am-3 pm

FRIENDS OF THE MODESTO LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE Library's East Portico. Bargains galore for every age: fiction, biographies, mysteries, non-fiction, children's books, history and more! All hardbacks \$1 and paperbacks 50¢.

#### Friday, May 11 (Open hours)

#### **Coloring Day**

Add some color to your world! All ages can join us to unwind and have fun in a comfortable environment. Colored pencils, crayons, and a variety of artistic designs will be available!

## May 9-12: Wed. 12-7, Thu. 10-7, Fri. 10-4, Sat. 10-3 SCHOLASTIC BOGO NEW BOOKS FOR KIDS SALE

Friends of the Modesto Library fundraiser and your local source for high quality, low cost books for children and teens. Buy one, get one free!

#### Monday, May 14, 6 pm

## On the Road to Citizenship: Citizenship Basics and Interview Process

A representative from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will be on hand to give an overview of what it takes to become a citizen and will discuss the interview process in detail. Spanish translation will be available.

#### Tuesday, May 22 through Tuesday, August 7

## Reading Takes You Everywhere Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading Program at all 13 Stanislaus County Libraries. For all ages - adults included!

#### Wednesday, May 23, 6 pm

#### **Savvy Social Security Planning**

Join social security benefits and Medicare specialist Scott Lucas at an educational workshop that will help baby boomers better understand the Social Security system.



#### Thursday, May 24, 8:30am-11:30 am

#### **Senior Awareness Day on Modesto Library Portico**

Senior citizens are invited to stop by the Modesto Library to learn about resources that are available to them. Representatives from organizations and programs including HICAP, Howard Training Center, and others will be on hand to answer questions and help with enrollment into programs. Light refreshments and a free prize drawing.

#### Monday, May 28

**CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY** 

#### Thursday, May 31, 4 pm

#### **Comix Club: Slime Edition!**

Come hang out on the last Thursday of every month for discussions, games and activities featuring our comic of the month. Comix Club is suggested for ages 8 and up. 209-558-7810.

#### JUNE

#### Thursday, June 7, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

#### **Game Day**

Get your game on in the Children's Dept. Bring the family and play giant versions of Jenga, Dominoes, and more. Ginormous fun? You bet!

#### Friday, June 8 (Open hours)

#### **Coloring Day**

Add some color to your world! All ages can join us to unwind and have fun in a comfortable environment. Colored pencils, crayons, and a variety of artistic designs will be available!

#### Saturday, June 9, 1-3 pm

#### **Dr. Seuss Day**

Drop by the Children's Room and see what Suessical activities await!

#### Saturday, June 16, 9am – 1pm

#### **5th Annual All-Teens Craft Fair**

Shoppers wanted for the 5 th Annual All-Teens Craft Fair. All crafts are made and sold by teens. Crafters between the ages of 13 and 18 must sign up before June 2. For more information, contact the Modesto Library's Children and Teen Services Department at (209) 558-7810. Modesto Library Portico.

#### Thursday, June 28, 4 pm

#### **Comix Club**

Like to read? So do we! Come hang out on the last Thursday of every month fordiscussions, games and activities featuring our comic of the month. Comix Club is suggested for ages 8 and up. 209-558-7810.

#### JULY

#### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 4**

**CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY** 

#### Thursday, July 5, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

#### **Game Day**

Get your game on in the Children's Dept.! Bring the family and play giant versions of Jenga, Dominoes, and more! Ginormous fun? You bet!

#### Friday, July 13 (Open hours)

#### **Coloring Day**

Add some color to your world! All ages can join us to unwind and have fun in a comfortable environment. Colored pencils, crayons, and a variety of artistic designs will be available!

#### Thursday, July 26, 4 pm

#### Comix Club

Like to read? So do we! Come hang out on the last Thursday of every month fordiscussions, games and activities featuring our comic of the month. Comix Club is suggested for ages 8 and up. 209-558-7810.

Dates are subject to change. More programs to be announced. Programs are in the basement auditorium unless stated otherwise. Please check the Stanislaus County Library's website at www. stanislauslibrary.org and click on Events and Classes to see information about all of the great programs we have in store for you.



### **QUICK STARTS**

#### FIRST SENTENCES FROM SELECTIONS IN THE NEW BOOKS AREA



On January 3, 2008, I pledged my heart and soul to Barack Obama. From Thanks Obama, My Hopey, Changey White House Years by David Litt



Ever since I was a little boy I've known there was something greater than myself: something bigger, something stronger — something higher.

From Higher Is Waiting by Tyler Perry



Mom Chao Cherry hunched forward in a broken wicker chair and stared anxiously across the Mississippi River toward the University of Minnesota campus.

From Shadow Girl by Gerry Schmitt



They descended like vultures from the C-17 transport plane, silhouettes against a quarter moon in a tar-black sky.

From Rule of Law by Randy Singer



Jean-Claude clung to the St. Marie's guardrail with one hand and to his tether with the other.

From An Alchemy of Masques and Mirrors by Curtis Craddock



This happened on the last day of the year when we still felt safe, with the American skyline brilliantine, the entire panorama still rendered in its familiar postcard wholeness.

From Panorama by Steve Kistulentz



Years of hardship, danger, and war had imbued War Leader Five Fists with the instinct of a forest-hunting cat.

From Moon Hunt by W. Michael and Kathleen O'Neal Gear