

# Reading Matters

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GREAT BOOKS COUNCIL OF SAN FRANCISCO  
*Serving Northern California*

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*Annual Meeting:*

## Paul Smith is elected

*New president outlines values,  
announces goals*

**In his own words:**

Twenty years ago, I moved away from San Francisco. Within two years, I was back.

What drew me to return was the type of conversation I so often experienced here. I appreciate debate to forge clarity of thought. I value didactic discourse with an expert. But I cherish dialectic discussions most. Collaborative intellectual investigation is the form of conversation I most enjoy and, I believe, the reason this region hosts such ingenuity.



**Paul Smith**

of curious and courteous individuals to explore new ideas collaboratively.

Great Books systematically generates precisely the kinds of discussions that brought me back, so I am thrilled to serve now as President and help spread the magic of this method across Northern California.

I am fortunate to follow Louise DiMattio, who successfully navigated us through the lockdown, helped new groups survive, deepened the camaraderie and support among leaders, and left the organization

thriving. I am excited to build on the positive directions she established and to grow our community.

Below are a few initiatives I hope to explore.

### **Beginner Groups**

New participants may find their first Great Books session daunting. The material may prove too hefty for a first step. Further, sharing your opinions at first can be intimidating, especially when discussion conventions are unfamiliar.

My goal is to have several Beginner Group sessions throughout the year. We'll position each one as an entry point to Great Books. We'll choose material that is substantive yet accessible, perhaps a short story or thought piece from a periodical with a timely theme. A few experienced participants may join to help the leader get the conversation flowing.

This approach will allow potential members to experience the magic of shared inquiry and receive help finding the ongoing group that best matches their interests. If you have an idea for a Beginner Group or are interested in helping in this effort, please email me.

### **Leader Mentorship**

We always seek more discussion leaders, but learning to lead these discussions confidently and graciously takes time and effort.

I want to organize an ongoing Leader Mentoring program that helps build a robust pipeline of group leaders. It will leverage our Leader-Reader Workshops and pair experienced leaders with aspiring ones, providing hands-on training and ongoing support.

We will also continue Louise DiMattio's outreach efforts, encouraging current leaders to seek out new leaders within their groups. This effort recently yielded robust attendance at our Leader-Reader workshop, skillfully produced by Louise Morgan.

This initiative will strengthen our existing groups and potentially spark the creation of new ones. Please email me if you'd like to help set up the program or provide mentorship.

## Volunteer Lists

Volunteers from our dynamic community help create our intellectually and socially stimulating gatherings. I want to make it easier for volunteers to contribute skills and for group leaders and event organizers to call upon them.

The idea is to maintain several simple lists of volunteers who may be available to help with various tasks. If you're a Zoom whiz, help manage breakout rooms at virtual events. If you're a social media mogul, help keep our Facebook and Meetup pages alive and well. If you're a good planner, help others set up new groups at libraries. Please email me if you're interested in volunteering.

## Back-Office Efficiency

While this may sound boring, I'm eager to use online collaboration tools to lighten the load for group leaders and event organizers so they can focus more on what truly matters. ~

With new members, more leaders, and more volunteers, I hope to help us spread the magic of shared inquiry to more curious minds across Northern California and beyond. Thank you for this opportunity to introduce myself.

If you have suggestions, ideas, or thoughts, please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Paul Smith**

[GreatBooksNCal.President@gmail.com](mailto:GreatBooksNCal.President@gmail.com)

*The presence of a married couple on the Council's executive committee has historically brought more than one plus one strength to it. As Paul Smith now takes up the role of GBSF president, his wife Eileen continues to serve the Council as treasurer. Below are her reflections.*

## Welcome, O life!

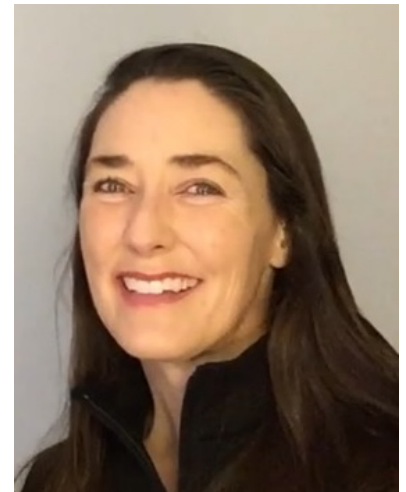
By Eileen Coleman

When I assumed the role of Treasurer a year ago, I did ask myself why I chose to be the numbers person in an organization dedicated to words. It felt like a discordant and perhaps unwise choice. While I feel comfortable with all things mathematical, is that reason enough? After all, I was not drawn to Great Books for the spreadsheets.

I am the daughter of an English teacher. The written word held high regard in our home. Among my earliest memories is playing at my mother's feet as she doggedly typed her thesis on the influence of Shakespeare

in the work of James Joyce. The rattle of typewriter keys, ding of return carriage bells, and rustle of papers being pulled out of the platen created a familiar and exhilarating cacophony.

As an adult, sadly, I do not share my mother's prowess in Joycean prose. While I have read some of his more "accessible" works, I have not read *Ulysses*, to say nothing of *Finnegans Wake*. Nevertheless, no doubt due to my mother's example, I found myself seeking more challenging literary engagement. It was that wish that drew me to Great Books.



**Eileen Coleman**

It has been a remarkably rewarding and edifying experience. When approached to become Treasurer, I felt returning that gift by taking more responsibility was appropriate. But the role of Treasurer is a substantial commitment; was it the right choice for me? For the organization?

Soon thereafter, I met with Brian Mahoney, who adroitly handled the role for more than a dozen years. Brian's well-honed systems would allow me to step into the role seamlessly. From that day on, he provided guidance and support, for which I am most grateful.

In that initial meeting with Brian, we dug into spreadsheets and bank statements, insurance policies and tax returns. When we finally broke away from the numbers, we spoke about our interests, literary and beyond. Among Brian's many enthusiasms is James Joyce. It seems that both he and my mother are among the dedicated Joyceans who upon finishing *Ulysses*, go right back to the beginning and start again. It was a clear signal to me that I was on the right path. As Joyce wrote in *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, "The past is consumed in the present and the present is living only because it brings forth the future."

Now, as I begin my second year as treasurer of GBSF, I am delighted to share that I am very happy to be the numbers person in a sea of word people. I still have much to learn and am eager to grow into the position. I look forward to continuing my service to the

organization and people who have been so generous to me. Moving forward, there are other goals I hope to meet. First among them: reading *Ulysses*.

## **WAY OUT!** Hip discussion group takes on the universe

By Brian Cunningham

The STEM reading group will soon begin reading in cosmology. Not the kind of cosmology which is a branch of metaphysics dealing with the nature of the universe. We will be reading the kind that deals with the origin, structure, and space-time relationships of the universe, sometimes called astronomy/cosmology.

Astronomy/cosmology is generating growing interest as a result of almost daily news concerning the international space station, potential return trips to the moon and various robotic explorations of our neighbors in the solar system. The Hubble and Webb telescopes are producing fantastic images of distant galaxies and other deep space phenomena that stir our imagination.

These and other new or improved scientific tools are producing, at an accelerating pace, important and exciting discoveries which are increasing human understanding of the universe in which we live. Exciting new fields of research are challenging our ability to keep up with this fast-moving science. Gravity wave astronomy, quantum effects, black holes, dark matter and dark energy are some of the areas of investigation that didn't even exist a few years ago.

The STEM group's experience reading in several scientific fields both informs and motivates this project. We began as the Main Library Group reading many of the usual Great Books essays. However, attendance began to dwindle due, at least in part, to an unfavorable location near the Tenderloin district. Many felt uncomfortable leaving the library at 7:30 PM, especially in the dark of winter. When only Carl Noe and I remained, Carl suggested we try readings in physics. Well, why not?

We began reading and discussing *What's the Matter? Readings in Physics*, an anthology published by the Great Books Foundation. Participation began to grow, aided by the switch to Zoom, as we enjoyed a positive experience in shared exploration of topics which none of us completely understood including, for example, Einstein's General Theory of Relativity and quantum physics. The group grew to as many as ten participants. We renamed ourselves the STEM reading

group. We even tried readings in mathematics, but with little success.

After finishing the physics anthology, we turned to another Great Books science anthology, *The Nature of Life: Readings in Biology*. Although participation continued to be strong, there was perceptibly less interest. After finishing that, the only Great Books science anthology remaining was *Keeping Things Whole: Readings in Environmental Science* in which there has been definitely less enthusiasm. We have almost completed that anthology with an average of six participants each month.

Astronomy/cosmology, a challenging "hard science" rooted in physics, seemed like a good next step. Unfortunately, neither Great Books nor anyone we could find publishes an anthology of readings in the various aspects of this fast-moving field. Thus, we are assembling our own. We've established a list of topics, authors and sources. That task was aided by ChatGPT, thanks to the valuable assistance of Paul Smith. It's difficult to say our list is complete because of the pace at which new discoveries are occurring and new theories are being published. We may be faced with the challenge of too many topics, written by scientists in the language of their discipline.

At this point we have finalized a list of the first several months of reading. We will begin with several readings which provide a survey of the field. We will then look at a little history, reading from the works of a few early philosophers and scientists. After that we will move on to the readings of scientists in many of the growing number of new and exciting areas of research and discovery. We have begun distributing PDFs of the first readings to the STEM email list. Our first cosmology discussion is scheduled on Zoom for October 2024.

Our group, including humanities and social science types as well as techies, is eager to begin exploring together a field of intellectual inquiry about which most of us know too little.

**Asilomar 2024:**

## **Shared Inquiry lives**

*Three score years, and still going strong*

By Mark Scardina

The Great Books Council of San Francisco has held a special weekend at the Asilomar Conference Grounds

in Pacific Grove for over 60 years. Our 2024 event continued this tradition, renamed a while ago in honor of its longtime organizer and beloved leader as the Barbara McConnell Great Books Weekend. The dramatic coastal setting continues to entice and amaze while the accommodations have been substantially upgraded over the decades. Having attended this event in the 60's, I can testify that the format that worked then continues unchanged but lovingly evolved.

Few Great Books events across the nation offer an immersive weekend in four different literary genres. In so doing, we have tried to offer a mix of traditional works with ones more contemporary or less well-known. This means not all selections will please everyone. This time was no exception. However, according to written evaluations, virtually everyone found discussing them enjoyable and worthwhile.

The program began as usual with Friday evening devoted to poetry. Outside of the Poetry Weekend later in the year, this is the only time we delve deeply into that medium. This time more recent works by Thomas Centolella and Louise Glück bracketed early 20<sup>th</sup>-century Wilfred Owen and Virginia Woolf ones. These, along with the dreary rainy weather may have set the serious tone for the discussions to come. At least the night closed with the emergence of *The Wild Iris* announcing spring.

Virginia Woolf figuratively returned that next morning with her treatise *Three Guineas*, usually interpreted to be anti-war. Not for that reason, this turned out to be the weekend's least popular reading. Two leaders couldn't make it, so with the reduced attendance, we combined groups. Participants enjoyed the discussion better than the book, pretty much a Great Books tradition.

An innovation that has replaced the original Saturday night party is the late-afternoon catered Meet & Greet. For the last few years we've been trying to entice first-timers and students to this event, and this social hour lets the "old guard" welcome new readers. In its third year, it was again well-received and attended.

Saturday night's novel surprised many in that an author famous for children's books was on the after-dinner menu. C.S. Lewis's *Till We Have Faces* is not a bedtime tale as it is told through the myth of Cupid and Psyche. Disturbing scenes painfully paralleled our society today. This session used to be followed by spontaneous talkfests long into the night. Old-timers

treasured these hours, and they are missed, in part due to an Asilomar curfew.

Sunday morning brought a much-needed break in the weather. This is the traditional day for drama, and Ibsen's *A Doll's House* delivered plenty of it. Ibsen's *The Wild Duck* had been on the menu in 1962 at the first Asilomar weekend, and Ibsen was just as rousing 62 years later, "slamming the door" on a well-reviewed weekend.

This year we experimented with paid as well as free advertising to attract new generations to Great Books. While the results were mixed, we did draw several new participants. Word of mouth remains the most effective approach. Next year we'll continue to offer free registration for first-time roommates and students. Please join us from March 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> in 2025. Try to recruit a student, a family member, or a friend!

## *On the Road Again*

By Louise DiMattio

*Ah, how good it is to be  
among people who are reading.*

Rainer Maria Rilke

I had to pinch myself several times as I set out on my much-planned 2024 vacation. My Air Canada flight was at SFO for an on-time departure. I was heading to Toronto to spend a week with good friends who are also amazing readers. I would attend Toronto Pursuits, an event hosted by Classical Pursuits ([www.classicalpursuits.com](http://www.classicalpursuits.com)) that features a choice of multiple morning seminars conducted by excellent leaders who adhere to the Shared Inquiry discussion method. My chosen seminar topic for this week would be the movies of Akira Kurosawa. I had done my homework and watched the five featured movies before going. Little did I know how unprepared I really was! Those movies are deep, complicated and full of literary allusions. The seminar leader and the participants helped me to sort this out.

Toronto Pursuits has the distinct advantage of, as they say, three strengths: location, location, and location. Situated at the University of Toronto campus in the heart of downtown Toronto, the entire beautiful city is right at your doorstep. The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), the Toronto Conservatory of Music and stylish Yorkville with its great restaurants and trendy shops are

within walking distance. Needless to say, the week flew by and I found myself, once again, heading to the airport, this time full of memories of meeting new friends and greeting old ones, happy in the knowledge that bonds of understanding had been created and strengthened.



**Lillian Dabney, Seattle librarian, at Colby. Recently joined GBSF Executive Committee.**

many years but had never been able to go. Rick and Kay White had attended and enjoyed it very much. I had looked longingly at their annual mailers but “life” had never made room for a week like that. But there I was, standing on the green grass of an incredibly beautiful campus with ivy covered brick buildings surrounded by massive maple and fir trees. Again I had to pinch myself. It had finally happened and I had arrived!

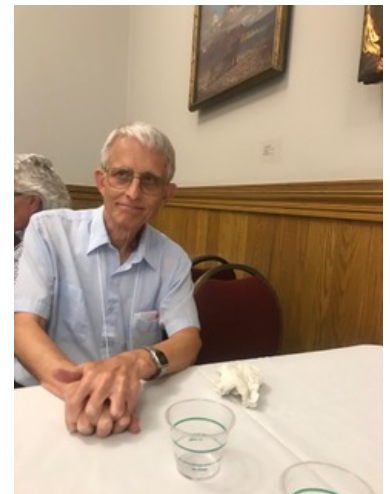
I soon found out that Great Books at Colby is “hard core”! By that I mean that Shared Inquiry and the classics are the order of the day. The theme for the week was Love and Passion; the readings were Shakespeare’s *As You Like It*, Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice*, Emily Bronte’s *Wuthering Heights*, Edith Wharton’s *The Age of Innocence*, Charles Baxter’s *The Feast of Love*, and Françoise Sagan’s *Bonjour Tristesse*. And... everyone reads everything! I was amazed to realize that the readers and leaders were completely prepared for six days of intense discussions followed by wonderful meals, afternoon activities and evening movies or concerts.

My next flight took me to Logan Airport in Boston for the second leg of my journey. I picked up a rental car and made my way north to Colby College in Waterville, Maine. I arrived at the beginning of Great Books at Colby, a summer institute hosted by the Philadelphia Great Books Council. I had heard about “Colby” for



**Donna Nemanic and Ellen Ward (Las Vegas), Louise DiMattio, and John Dalton, Philadelphia GB president, at Colby**

There was even a lobster bake! The Atlantic Music Festival was in residence at Colby, too, so music floated from windows and doors throughout the week. I was honored to be asked to lead two of the selections and the groups were enthusiastic and deeply involved in the discussions.



**Jim Vasser at Toronto Pursuits. Attends Gold Country group.**

After my two-week sojourn, I realized that one is never a stranger when mutually-read books are being discussed. There is a sort of “shorthand” among readers that goes something like this: “He is about as forgiving as Heathcliff” or, “a guy like Newland Archer could never leave his New York Society” or, “a woman today is never desperate enough to marry Mr. Collins, or to marry at all.”

As I make my way back to foggy summer in San Francisco, do I dare to wish for another summer like this one? Would it be tempting the gods if I started planning now? I dwell in possibility. As Emily Dickinson, “the belle of Amherst,” would say:

*Hope is a thing with feathers  
that perches in the soul.*

## No whitewash in Auburn *Curtain is raised on an outrage*

By Rick White

Oil, “black gold,” was discovered in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century on land where the Osage had been exiled, and it made many fabulously rich—that is, until they were systematically plundered and murdered by envious white criminals. Not uncommonly, these men married Native American women having the title to mineral rights, then these scoundrels murdered their way into ownership.

*Killers of the Flower Moon*, by journalist David Grann, focusing on a few families tells how this happened and how it took unforgivably long for the U.S. government to deal with it. J. Edgar Hoover’s career and the FBI were boosted in Oklahoma. Twenty-two 21<sup>st</sup> century Americans met in Auburn, California, to learn about this in a cool church basement on a hot June day in a city formed by discovery in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century of another kind of gold. Neither time was free from scoundrels.

Participants divided into two groups to discuss the book, then after a fine catered buffet, to view the eponymous movie directed by Martin Scorsese. Neither pulled its punches. Justice at the hands of the FBI arrived too late for the Osage. By then they had been murdered back into poverty.

Louise DiMattio, GBSF president, and Kay White led the discussions. The events described were news to many participants, but not a total surprise. Great Books readers know well that history is not unblemished. The press is free, and many, if not most, schools are at liberty to instruct us that we are still striving for “a more perfect union.”

For once this body of book readers had only minor reservations about either the book or the movie. In fact, one participant commented that the printed version was an improvement. The book left it to the reader to infer what was not always conclusive in its narrative. The movie sometimes added what was not told.

Kudos go to Donna Reynolds and the Auburn group for another fine discussion of a non-fiction work.

## San Francisco Mini-Retreat: *a blackbird and postcards*

By Parki Hoeschler

*Among twenty snowy mountains,  
The only moving thing  
Was the eye of the blackbird.*

So begins Colum McCann's short story, *Thirteen Ways of Looking*: with the first stanza of Wallace Stevens's poem, "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird". And the pace picks up with the double bonus of a Stevens stanza beginning each of the 13 chapters/sections of the McCann story.

Who else than Sheri Kindsvater would be the perfect leader for a quirky journey through the Upper East Side of Manhattan. In the custody of fearless Sheri we encountered both the blackbird and a prominent judge who was nearing the end of his life. Even if you have not lived in a building serviced by a doorman, had a live-in caregiver, or dined at a traditional East Side restaurant, by the end of this murder-mystery you felt you had done so. Thanks to Colum McCann you may never think of a camera or of an eye, be it human or avian, in the same way.

McCann's story had been such a hit that in the afternoon session Louise Morgan, as a Leader/Reader trainer who follows her own advice, listened to comments about morning discussions. Then she turned the discussion to the afternoon’s reading.

It was Deborah Eisenberg's story, *Merge*. We enjoyed analyzing graphic postcards her character received in Manhattan from a woman traveling abroad in humanitarian work. Her cryptic style, as this woman explores language, degenerates into designs and scribbles. The group discovered different meanings by reading the postcards in reverse! Too soon the day ended. We ran out of time.

For our next San Francisco Mini-Retreat, taking place in early 2025, we'll discover our theme in Golden Gate Park. Stands there a monument to a Pioneer Mother. Whether by Europeans who headed for the fertile plains of the American Midwest, or by Asians journeying to California, the contributions and sacrifices of pioneer women are mostly unsung. Please save the date: Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

## GREAT BOOKS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA – GROUP ROSTER – JULY 2024

Area	Location	Contact	Phone	Email	Reading in 2024	Date and Time
Central Valley	Auburn: Placer County Library	Donna Reynolds	916-420-1979	pianogaldonna@gmail.com	The Norton Reader, 14 <sup>th</sup> ed.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue, 1 pm
	Davis & Woodland: Homes	Pat Dearborn	530-758-0108	dearborn@cal.net	GBF: Great Conversations 6	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed or Thu, 1:30 pm
	Fair Oaks (Zoom)	Catherine Vigran	916-761-7349	tvigran@comcast.net	GBF: Great Conversations 1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed, 7:30 pm
	Sacramento: Renaiss. Society, Sac. St (Zoom)	Jean Cawood	916-396-8431	jczcawood@comcast.net	GBF: Civ. Engaged Reader, etc.	Thu, 2:00 pm
East Bay, Tri-Valley	Alameda: Main Library	Jeff Hitchings	240-893-0325	jeffhitchings.jh@gmail.com	GBF: First Series, various	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue, 6:30 pm
	Berkeley Poetry Group (Zoom)	Nina Gibson	510-919-5058	ngibson11@comcast.net	Poetry	1 <sup>st</sup> Thu, 7:00 pm
	Oakland (Zoom)	Jan Vargo	510-849-1824	vargopack@cs.com	GBF: Citizens of the World, etc.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri, 3:30 pm
	Pleasanton (Zoom)	Brian Mahoney	510-301-1945	gbbrianmahoney@gmail.com	GBF: What's the Matter? Readings in Physics	Bi-monthly: 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon, 7:30 pm
	Walnut Creek: Rossmoor Bunker Room	Louise Di-Mattio	415-244-2461	ladimat@aol.com	Banned books	1 <sup>st</sup> Fri, 10:00 am
	Walnut Creek (Zoom)	Ronald Kihara		rkihara@comcast.net	Various	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed
	Walnut Creek: Rossmoor	Louise Di-Mattio	415-244-2461	ladimat@aol.com	Art of the Short Story, Daniel Halpern, ed.	4 <sup>th</sup> Mon, 10:00 am
	Walnut Creek: Rossmoor Multipurpose Room 1	Paul Giurlanda		vallejo1@icloud.com	GBF: Seven Deadly Sins	4 <sup>th</sup> Mon, 7:00 pm
	Walnut Creek: Rossmoor Gateway Bldg	Joe Ficarelli	925-954-7461	ficurelli@hotmail.com	GBF: Great Conversations 6	4 <sup>th</sup> Fri, 1:30 pm
Marin	Kentfield: College of Marin (Zoom)	Norman Nayfach	415-499-3173	normansn@hotmail.com	Various	4 <sup>th</sup> Tue, 1:30 pm
San Francisco	Anza Branch Library	Clifford Louie	415-750-1786	clifford.louie@sbcglobal.net	Various	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun, 1:30 pm
	Older Women's League (OWL) (Zoom) – full	Louise Di-Mattio	415-244-2461	ladimat@aol.com	Contact for information	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue, 10:00 am
	The Sequoias (residents only)	Dennis Brydon	415-796-3809	mbrydon1@aol.com	GBF: Great Conversations 3	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue, 3:00 pm
	Virtual Great Books group (Zoom)	Albert Eng	415-641-9149	alberteng333@gmail.com	Art of the Short Story	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue, 6:30 pm
	West Portal Branch (Zoom)	Louise Di-Mattio	415-244-2461	ladimat@aol.com	GBF: Short Story Omnibus	Last Wed, 6:30 pm
	San Francisco (Zoom)	Elena Schmid	415-550-9065	eschmid@sonic.net	GBF: Great Conversations 5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed, 6:30 pm
	STEM reading group (Zoom)	Brian Cunningham	415-298-5536	briancnngam@gmail.com	GBF: Keeping Things Whole	1 <sup>st</sup> Thu, 5:30 pm
South Bay	Los Altos: Public Library (Zoom)	Norman Roth	650-823-1444	nmroth@gmail.com	GBF: Great Conversations 1, Imperfect Ideal	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue, 7:00 pm
	Los Gatos: Unitarian Fellowship (Zoom)	Harry Campbell	669-246-8063	harrycampbell@gmail.com	Various essays, current books	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon, 7:30 pm
	Monterey Peninsula College, GB cert. program (Zoom)	Alan Haffa	831-646-4224	haffa@mpc.edu	<a href="http://www.mpc.edu/greatbooks">http://www.mpc.edu/greatbooks</a>	Contact for info
	Santa Cruz: OLLI (Zoom)	Susan Gorsky	831-234-4590	sgorsky@sbcglobal.net	Contact for information	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed, noon

## 2024-25 CALENDAR • GREAT BOOKS COUNCIL OF SAN FRANCISCO

July 2024	August – October	November – December
<p><b>7/6 Annual Meeting: via Zoom.</b> Election of Officers. Discuss Katherine Ann Porter, <i>Noon Wine</i></p> <p><b>7/13 Leader-Reader Workshop via Zoom.</b></p>	<p><b>10/19-20 Long Novel Weekend via Zoom.</b> Gabriel Garcia Marquez, <i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i></p>	<p><b>11/16-17 Poetry Weekend via Zoom.</b></p>
January-February 2025	March - April	May-June
<p><b>2/8 San Francisco Mini-Retreat.</b> Location TBD, Reading TBD</p>	<p><b>3/14-16 Barbara McConnell Spring Conference at Asilomar.</b> Readings TBD</p>	<p><b>Date TBD: Gold Country Mini- Retreat, Auburn.</b></p>

**GREAT BOOKS COUNCIL OF SAN FRANCISCO Serving Northern California:** President, Paul Smith; Vice President; Elena Schmid; Secretary, Rob Calvert; Treasurer, Eileen Coleman; Past President, Louise DiMattio.

*Reading Matters:* Editor and Publisher, Rick White; E-letter Editor and Publisher, Jim Hall; Database, Jan Vargo.

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