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Joan Aragone: Inspiration for "On the Road" character speaks

By Joan Aragone

San Mateo County Times

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Are you interested in hearing stories about author Jack Kerouac and the Beat Generation from somebody who not only was there but also served as an inspiration for a character in the classic Beat novel "On the Road"?

Then get to the Menlo Park Library on Saturday, as Richard Marcel, aficionado of the Beat movement, interviews Al Hinkle of San Jose, lifelong friend of Neal Cassady and part of the circle that included Allen Ginsberg, Kerouac and a cast of others. Cassady was the model for Dean Moriarty in "On the Road," while Hinkle served as inspiration for the character Ed Dunkel.

The multimedia event runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with music by Gary Horsman of Moss Beach and poetry and artwork by local artists Leah Lubin and Uma Iyil. The interview will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

For more information, call 650-330-2512. The library is at 800 Alma St.