



President's Corner

Board President Sandra Sullivan was on vacation at publication time
Board member Jim Powell writes in her stead

Time really seems to fly when you are as busy as your FACL board members are. It seems like last fall's Book Sale was only yesterday, and yet we are planning for the April Book Sale, our February and March Book Drive, and our March concert featuring Tom Rigney and Flambeau. We hope to see you at all of these events. For all the details see the articles in this newsletter.

Many valuable and experienced board members have left the board and our new members are working hard to get up to speed. Our newest member is Elizabeth Rhein who is bringing great enthusiasm and energy to the board.

Have you ever considered becoming more involved with the Friends? We meet monthly and our main goal is supporting projects benefitting our local library.

We are currently seeking one or two new board members to replace those who are no longer able to serve. By joining the FACL Board you can become more involved in projects that enhance library services. Your involvement would be as much as your schedule allows; we do, however, ask that Board members attend the monthly meeting. There is no financial commitment.

Just drop us an email at friendsoftheaclibrary@gmail.com with a subject of "Board Member" and we will contact you with more information.

Finally, mark your calendars for Book Drives, concert and spring Book Sale. Share this information with your friends and neighbors; invite them to join you and encourage them to join and support the Friends of the Amador County Library.

All of us on the Board are looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

FACL Partners With AmazonSmile

The Friends of the Amador County Library has joined forces with AmazonSmile to take advantage of its program to benefit non-profit organizations. We hope you will shop with Amazon Smile and designate FACL as your charity of choice.



Here are the highlights of the AmazonSmile program:

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Friends of the Amador County Library.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support FACL by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com by following this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2374918>

Dues Are Due!

An Important Reminder for Members . . .

If you haven't paid your dues for 2015, now's the time to send in your check, or pay online. We value your support as your dues help FACL provide continuous support to our county library.

Being a paid member also gives you some special benefits:

- Access to the book sales on "members only" Friday nights.
- Advance notice about special events like the annual concert and other FACL activities.
- Knowledge that you are contributing to the continued support of our local library.

Send your check to FACL, PO Box 701, Jackson, CA 95642 or visit our website at <http://www.friendsoftheamadorcountylibrary.org/> to pay online via PayPal.

You can send in your marked ballot (see page 5) in the same envelope and save a few cents. Or, you can email your vote to friendsoftheaclibrary@gmail.com

Librarian's Corner

by Laura Einstadter

FACT Funds Innovative DVD Storage and Retrieval System

As many of you may know the library carries digital video discs (DVDs) for borrowing. The main library has a collection of 1,742 DVDs, including adult/teen, children's, drama and non-fiction titles.

Each DVD case is placed on shelves for display, however, the discs themselves are not kept in the cases. For several years all of the DVDs were filed in drawers located behind the front desk. To check out a DVD, an individual would bring the empty case to the desk and staff would go to the file drawers and pull the corresponding

DVD. This was not only very time consuming, but it was easy to make mistakes in the filing. Getting the DVDs shelf ready was an extremely lengthy process—not only cataloging, labeling and stamping each case and DVD but also making up individual protective sleeves for each corresponding DVD case. Recent staff reductions made this process untenable. There had to be another way to loan DVDs that didn't involve so much in staff and processing costs.

I began researching products that were designed to house the individual DVDs, and were relatively easy to use. One of the listservs I subscribe to for small rural libraries had been discussing different models of DVD dispensers in a recent thread. The LAT Stena product was favored over other similar models because of its ease of use, cost, helpful support and size. I contacted the vendor and explained our situation. He suggested that I watch a demo of the product to determine if it

was a good fit for us. I arranged to view the demo with another staff member and contacted the company owner after watching the demo. We had a conference call where we asked him a series of questions about the LAT Stena product. Taking the information I had from the vendor I then approached the Friends for funding to purchase an initial set of five pods.

Each pod holds 150 DVDs; however, since DVDs are checked in and out frequently, we initially thought five pods would be a good number to begin with. We found out quickly that we outgrew the first five pods when we tried to load in all of our DVDs at the main branch. I went back to the Friends and requested an additional four pods for a total of nine pods.

The nine pods house the majority of our movie collection at the main library. We

do not have enough room to include the children's DVDs, the non-fiction DVDs or the multi-part (4 or more) DVDs. The fact that we were able to reduce the amount of staff time it takes to load and unload each DVD case and the amount of processing per DVD case has meant we can now provide a much more efficient service as well as free staff up to perform other more important duties.

The pods work much like the former slide projectors did where DVDs are loaded into an individual slot, which corresponds to the barcode number on the case. Staff load and unload the machines in much less time than it took to look through drawers of DVDs, and patrons love watching the machines locate and



dispense the DVDs.

Thanks to the hard-working Friends of the Library, we were able to purchase all the pods we needed to continue to provide a much loved service to Amador County Library patrons.

2015 Summer Reading Program

The annual Summer Reading Program theme this year is Read to the Rhythm.

Planning is under way for some foot stomping, hand clapping, make some noise fun at the library this summer. The program will run June 15-July 24. The Summer Reading Program is open to children in grades K-12.

Participants in the program will receive a reading log and a calendar of events. For every 30 minutes a child reads or is read to, a musical instrument is crossed off on the reading log. If all six weeks of reading are completed then the child will have read a total of 15 hours.

Reading incentives will be given out to children as they complete each week of reading. If they finish all six weeks of reading and attend two events and participate in one craft they are eligible to enter the grand prize drawing.

Sponsors this year are Raley's for their NickelAid Award, Friends of the Amador County Library, and First5 Amador.

(continued on page 4)



Much of the Library's DVD collection is stored in these nine pods.

The Friends of the Amador County Library
Proudly Present In Concert

TOM RIGNEY AND FLAMBEAU



**Sunday,
March 22
3 PM**

**Doors Open at 2:30 pm
The Call
(formerly Calvary Chapel)
18400 Ridge Road,
Pine Grove**

**TICKETS: \$22 in Advance;
\$25 At the Door, if Available**

**Tickets at Hein & Co. Bookstore,
Jackson, or By mail (until March 15) at
FACL Concert, 13910 Rose Quartz Ct,
Pine Grove, CA 95665**

**Make checks payable to FACL
Information: 209.296.1712**

**Light Refreshments/Raffle
Door Prizes**

**Proceeds benefit the
Friends of the Amador
County Library**

Friends
OF THE
Amador County Library

Sponsored by:

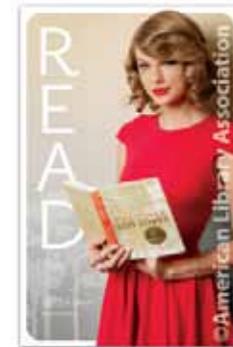


Don't Forget to Buy Your Tickets for the 5th Annual FACL concert featuring Tom Rigney and Flambeau. They'll raise the roof at The Call Church in Pine Grove with fiery Cajun and zydeco, low-down blues, funky New Orleans grooves and beautiful ballads and waltzes on Sunday, March 22, 2015, at 3 pm. You won't want to miss it! Visit the group's website at <http://www.rigomania.com> to learn more about these fabulous artists and their music. In addition to the location above, tickets are also available at the Amador Council of Tourism, 115 Valley View Way in Sutter Creek.

All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Amador County Library

ALA Online Store Catalog Encourages Reading

The American Library Association's on-line store features a trove of bookmarks, posters and other items to encourage reading. A sure-fire example is this 22" x 34" poster of GRAMMY® winner Taylor Swift, who is a passionate supporter of literacy and libraries. Partnering with Scholastic Books, Taylor has made generous donations of over 50,000 books to a multitude of school libraries across the country as well as public libraries



in her hometown of Reading, PA, Hendersonville, TN and Nashville, TN where she currently resides. Billboard's reigning "Artist of the Year," Taylor is also accomplished in film and TV, having voiced the character of Audrey in the movie Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax*, contributed two songs to the soundtrack of the movie *The Hunger Games*, guest-starred on *CSI*, and hosted Saturday Night Live.

You can shop the ALA store and see this poster at <http://www.alastore.org/detail.aspx?ID=11037>

Librarian's Corner

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Paws to Read With Grommit the Therapy Dog

Therapy dog Grommit has been coming to the library since last summer when his owner approached the library about bringing Grommit to the library for children to read to him.

The library had a program in place several years ago when Charlie used to come to the library every Friday during the Summer Reading Program for children to read to him. Charlie retired from the library a couple of years ago and now has other responsibilities.

Grommit has been visiting the library on Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30 pm. He has been on winter holiday but we look forward to his return sometime in March.





Calendar

Story time	Thursday, Sept.-May 10:30-11 a.m.	Main Library (Jackson)
Ione Story time	Every Monday 10 –10:30 a.m.	Ione branch
Pioneer Book Club	2nd Thursday 11 a.m.	Pioneer branch
Plymouth Book Club	1st Thursday 6:30—7:30 p.m.	Plymouth branch
BookEnds Book Club	4th Wednesday 5:30 p.m.	Main Library
Just Knits	2nd Monday 10:30 a.m.	Main Library
Friends of the Amador County Library Board	3rd Tuesday 9 a.m.	County GSA building Conference Room
Book Drive	February 21 & March 28 10am–2pm	42A Summit St Jackson
Annual Concert	March 22 3 p.m.	The Call Church Pine Grove
Annual Spring Book Sale	April 10–12	American Legion Hall Sutter Creek



The Friends of the Amador County Library (FACL) was formed in 1974 to support the Amador County Library. The Friends is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit group which means your donations are tax-deductible.

A membership in the Friends provides financial support to the library. Fund-raising activities include book sales twice a year and other special events. The Friends also actively promote gift-giving such as memorials, estate sales, donations, and group contributions.

FACL publishes a newsletter, *Biblio-File*, (formerly *News & Notes*) for its members. As an added bonus, the first night of each book sale is reserved for members only. Members of Friends get involved by organizing fund-raising events and assisting with the book sales. Over the years, the organization has contributed many thousands of dollars worth of books and equipment to the Amador County Library.

For just a few dollars, you can enjoy member's privileges and know that you are helping to support one of the county's most valuable resources.

Annual dues are as follows:

- Individual \$10
- Family \$15
- Sustaining \$25
- Life \$200
- Organization \$50

For more information about Friends of the Amador County Library, please go to www.friendsoftheamadorcountylibrary.org or inquire at any of the library's five branches.

FACL Election of 2015-16 Officers

The following slate has been nominated for 2015-2016 officers of Friends of the Amador County Library (FACL). Members can vote on these nominees or offer write-in alternatives by completing the ballot below and mailing it to:

FACL
P.O. Box 701
Jackson, CA 95642;

or by emailing their vote to friendsoftheaclibrary@gmail.com
Ballots must be received no later than May 15.

Ballot for 2015-2016 Election of FACL Officers

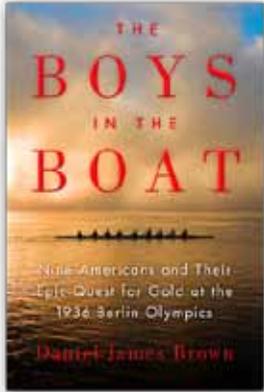
Office	Nominee	YES	NO	Write-In
President	Rick Sprenkel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Vice President	Gail Smyth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Secretary	Elizabeth Rhein	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Treasurer	Jim Powell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Book Reviews

The Boys in the Boat

by Daniel James Brown

The Boys in the Boat details the amazing story of the young men on the University of Washington eight-man rowing team who against great odds



and popular expectation won the gold medal at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. This group competed against much better funded groups who had long traditions of rowing excellence.

The reader also learns

what a popular sport rowing was in the 30's, including a ticker tape parade in New York for the winners. The book details a fascinating and painfully difficult story of one of the team members. It gives a wonderful picture of life during the depression and some of the anguishing decisions parents made. It also chronicles the rise of the Nazi party, in particular the preparations made for the 1936 Olympics and the attempts to show Germany in a good light at the time when very dark

things were starting to happen.

This is a great book about personal determination and strength as well as the power of teamwork. The writing is not elegiac, but it is straightforward and the story is so powerful that the reader doesn't miss more elegant writing. There is also a powerful love story thrown in.

You will learn more than you ever wanted to know about rowing and enjoy the experience. I found this to be one of the most moving books that I read this year.

– Janie Brown

Velocity

by Dean Koontz

Audio Book Unabridged

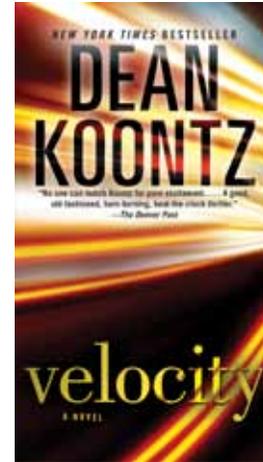
Read by Michael Hayden

Sometimes the way Koontz drafts his prose engages the reader/listener more than his story line. *Velocity* proves the exception. Billy Wiles works as a bartender, lives alone, and often visits his comatose fiancée, Barbara. His life is simple and revolves around protecting Barbara as she lies in her hospital bed.

One night after leaving the bar where he works he finds a disturbing note on his windshield. The note contains an alarming ultimatum. If he takes the note to the police the writer

will kill a blonde schoolteacher. If he does not take the note to the police the writer will kill an elderly woman. Billy suspects the message might be a hoax until the next day when a murder occurs just as described in the note.

As Billy investigates he continues to get notes with similar threats where



he must choose, through his action or inaction, the next victim. While he struggles to unravel this bizarre set of events, the notes come more quickly and the deadlines for him to decide between two victims gets shorter.

The pace gets hectic as Billy gets closer to determining the identity of the psychopathic killer. When he realizes the killer's next victim will be Barbara his efforts to identify and stop the killer get more frantic. The last note says: *The choice is yours.*

This book serves as a good driving companion for 9.5 hours and holds your interest in the diabolical plot until its conclusion.

– Gail Smyth

Friends of Amador County Library Board of Directors

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 Michele Powell
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Notes and Briefs

A Note From Your Newsletter Editor

I hope you enjoy the *Biblio-File*. If you would like to contribute a book review or have a pertinent item of interest for members of the Friends of the Amador County Library that you'd like included in the next issue of *Biblio-File*, send it to friendsoftheaclibrary@gmail.com with a subject line of *Biblio-File*, or write to FACL, PO Box 701, Jackson, CA 95642.