

News & Notes...

FACL Book Donations to Interfaith Food Bank Well Received

More than 4,000 residents of Amador County visit the Interfaith Food Bank every month to obtain emergency food supplies. In addition to their groceries, these families can also pick up free books donated through the Friends of the Amador County Library.

Every week, members of the Friends deliver dozens of books to the Food Bank facility on Airport Road in Jackson. These gently-used books come through donations to the Friends and are free to Food Bank clients. Volunteers with both groups make sure the two book cases in the Food Bank's reception area are stacked with a varied collection of fiction and non-fiction hardbacks and paperbacks, including mysteries, reference and children's books.

"Our clients are very excited about the books," said Kathleen Harmon, Food Bank Executive Director. "For the 2800 families we serve each month, the books are a real added bonus."

FACL Board member Kirk Lindsay confirms the books' popularity. "We take boxes of books in every week, and the following week most of the inventory is gone," Lindsay said. "They've been very well received."



FACL Launches Campaign to Fund New Library Shelving

Did you know that the library shelving in the main library in Jackson is as old as the building itself: built in 1964, the structure is 46 years old and the shelves are showing their age (see picture below). The pedestal bases are unstable, which allows the shelves to rock back and forth. There are no backstops between back-to-back shelving, so books on either side can and do fall back between the shelves and become stuck. Some of the shelves are too high for the young and the elderly to reach. The current battleship grey metal shelving is antiquated. Finally, the shelving does not allow books to be displayed on ends or on top.

Thanks to generous donations from the Jackson Rancheria Casino and Hotel (\$7,500), the Mother Lode Newcomers Club (\$2,000), LIFT (\$2,665) and an anonymous donation of \$500, FACL has raised \$12,665 for the new shelving. The shelving that has been ordered is new, attractive and versatile metal shelving with laminate tops and slat wall panels for the children's section of the main library in Jackson. This shelving will be the correct height so that children of all ages can reach library materials. The books can be dis-



played on both sides, on tops and on ends of the shelving so the library can feature themed books and new arrivals. The children's area will become a much more inviting environment for reading, exploring, and learning.

Now FACL is embarking on a campaign to raise \$50,000 by July 1, 2011 for shelving in the teen and adult non-fiction sections of the main library. This new shelving will not only enhance the appearance of the collection, it will transform the library!

To raise this large sum of money, FACL has launched a multi-pronged effort. We are applying to various foundations for grants and seeking donations and pledges from 15 local service organizations. In addition to our two annual book sales, we are staging a very special Cowboy Poet fundraiser next January 16. And we are asking you, our FACL members and loyal library supporters, to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the FACL Shelving Fund. We know you love the library and will want to be part of this exciting effort to improve the library with new shelving. Watch for a letter in the mail from the Friends asking for your financial support for the shelving campaign in the near future.

If you have questions about this campaign, or would like to help, call Susan Staggs at 296-0940.

The Library Corner...*Notes from Librarian Laura Einstadter*

This year's Summer Reading Program was a great success with 100 children completing their reading logs.

We had four grand prize winners that received special school bags with supplies inside. We also had several children that read more than 300 pages to Charlie, the reading dog for PAWS to Read.

A huge thank you goes out to those donors that gave to the children's shelving campaign. The new shelving was delivered and installed September 30th. Be sure and stop by and visit the children's area.



The library has a new online resource, Legal Information Reference Center. This database contains more than 310 full-text publications and thousands of legal forms. Many of the full-text legal reference books are provided through Nolo, the nation's oldest and most-respected provider of legal information for consumers and small businesses. Check it out at: <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/index.aspx?page=344>



www.co.amador.ca.us/index.aspx?page=344

Please mark your calendars for October 4th! This very special library day gives libraries throughout the state of California an opportunity to show the value of libraries in the community. This day is sponsored by the California

Library Association and the American Library Association. We will have several events going on during the day along with library tours, demonstrations, a technology petting zoo, and more. Stop by get your picture taken with your favorite 'librarian' and get counted!

How did the library stack up over the past year? Here are some impressive numbers to consider when talking about the importance of the library throughout the county:

Visitors to the Library: 100,964	Library Card Holders: 23,771
Checkouts: 97,423	Computer Use: 27,606
Adult Programs: 51	Adult Program Attendance: 1,209
Children's Programs: 137	Children's Program Attendance: 2,147
Requests for material from other libraries: 1,457	

Those are pretty strong numbers for a small county. We should all be pleased with our library's success.

Board Increases Dues to Meet Rising Costs

At its regular monthly meeting in September, the FACL Board of Directors approved raising dues to help cover increased costs and to bring the dues schedule in line with other rural library support groups throughout the state. A survey found that Amador's dues schedule was significantly lower than equivalent organizations.



"We hadn't raised dues in several years," said FACL President Susan Staggs. "This increase should help us continue to provide support to the library in the face of rising costs."

The following dues schedule becomes effective January 1, 2011:

- Individual membership \$10
- Family membership \$15
- Business/organization \$50
- Sustaining membership \$25
- Life membership \$200

The Friends of the Amador County Library currently has 348 members.



A Message from the FACL Board President.....

Susan Staggs, President
Friends of the Amador County Library

“Where we put our focus is the direction we tend to go.”

Peter McWilliams

FACL is very focused on two big goals for 2010-2011. First and foremost, we want to raise \$50,000 by July 1, 2011 to purchase new shelving for the teen & adult non-fiction sections of the main library in Jackson. Second, we want to hold the biggest and best Fall and Spring book sales to date so that we can continue to purchase items on the library's wish list for 2010-2011. Of course, these two big goals are made up of many supporting activities.

As part of the shelving campaign, FACL is planning a fun and fabulous special event, “Boots ‘N Books” on Sunday, January 16, 2011 at 2 p.m. Larry Maurice, renowned cowboy entertainer, will “breathe life into the history of the American West” with song, stories, and poetry. For more about Larry's impressive career, go to www.larrymaurice.com. The American Legion Hall will be transformed into the old west and Judge David Richmond will be our master of ceremonies. Delicious refreshments, a no-host bar with wine and beer, door prizes, a 50-50 cash raffle, and a silent auction will round out the afternoon. Tickets are only \$15 before the event, \$20 at the door. We'll be selling tickets at the October book sale or by mail (see below for details). This is a great opportunity to see one heck of a show and support the library at the same time, so purchase your tickets before they're gone! And if you have a wonderful item that you would like to donate for our silent auction, please call me at 296-0940.

Also in conjunction with the shelving campaign, I made a presentation to the Amador County Board of Supervisors in Au-

gust explaining why the library in Jackson needs new shelving. Board member Helen Bierce and I are speaking to a dozen or more service organizations in Amador County this Fall to get their support for our campaign. Look for our shelving poster and special bookmarks at the main library – you can help us spread the word.

Recently retired Board member Patty Still did a great job at organizing our presence at farmers markets throughout the county this summer; we raised over \$827 for the library. Our book drive in July was a resounding success; we collected 115 boxes of books for the next book sale. Many thanks to Board members Kirk Lindsay and Helen Bierce for organizing the book drive. We also participated in the “**e-raise your e-waste**” event at the main library on September 11th. Donations totaling \$548 from this event benefited our shelving fund. Lastly, FACL will have a table on October 4th at the upcoming “**Snapshot: One Day in the Life of California Libraries**” sponsored by the California Library Association. In addition to selling lovely gently-read books, we will be promoting membership in FACL, our fall book sale, and our cowboy poet event. All of these efforts take lots of volunteer hours. We could really use more willing hands. If you would like to help make a difference at the library, please call me at 296-0940 or email staggs@volcano.net.

See you at the book sale!



Make sure to save SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. for popular

Boots ‘N Books, an afternoon of **COWBOY POETRY, LORE & SONG by LARRY MAURICE**

Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION HALL, MARTELL

Refreshments No Host Bar

TICKETS \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door

Tickets available at Hein & Company, Jackson
and at Fine Eye Gallery, Sutter Creek

or by mail (until 1/7/11): 14000 Echo Drive, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

This event is supported by Poets & Writers Inc., through a grant from the James Irvine Foundation.



Pine Grove Branch Proves Popular with UpCountry Residents

I wandered up to Pine Grove in early August to get the lay of the land at this branch and to interview Jim Jacobs, the branch library assistant (picture at right). Upon arriving I noticed the lack of parking on the west side of the building so parked on the street. I crossed Hwy 88 at a new crosswalk with light buttons on each side to take a picture of the old Pine Grove Town Hall, the back of which is the Pine Grove library. I must admit I preferred the red and white color motif. Upon entering the front I noted that the stairs and porch were in disrepair. These are to be replaced in the near future. I crossed the wide expanse of hardwood flooring which comprises the community center and back to the library where I met Jim.

As we started talking I noted that Jim and the library are a good match. His master's degree in English fits well with the job, as do the limited hours of the branch. Jim applied for the job to reopen the branch in March 2008 after it had



been closed a year, and he appears to have done a good job. The shelves are neat and well-marked and seem to be essentially full. There is a computer for public use as many patrons don't have access to one at home. The downside of this is

the dialup connection but, hey, any connection is better than none.



The library is snug, about 550 square feet with about 6000 books and has a patronage of between 11 and 16 people a day. Frequently people call to check on titles rather than drive in, as many live well up country. Besides Pine Grovers

the library draws from Pioneer, West Point and Shake Ridge as it is a convenient stop coming down from UpCountry. There are parking spaces for the disabled on the east side of the building.

There is a sizable children's book section that Jim laments is not used as much as he would like it to be. Children mostly have to be driven to the library which is difficult for working parents.

Should you have an opportunity, drop in and say hi to Jim and maybe he'll tell you about his 20 years managing a cattle ranch before falling into this job which suits him just fine. The library's hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 1-5 p.m. and Wednesday from 1-4 p.m.

By Kim Still, Retired FACL Board Member

Surplus Books find a Good Home at On A Mission

The Friends of the Amador County Library receives generous book donations from throughout the community. We keep several copies of a title for our book sales, but there are often many more duplicates than we can sell. So, for a few years now, these books have needed good homes where they could be available to the public.

One answer is to partner with the thrift store On A Mission, a joint effort that has been successful for both organizations.

"We are able to take all categories of books from FACL," said Becky Antonini, site manager at the thrift shop. "With a great sorting system and large storage area, we can continually refresh our book shelves. This lets us offer new titles all the time and keep our book sales interesting and dynamic."

"Helping the Youth of Amador County" is the foundation for On A Mission. Teens who receive grants are required to volunteer at the thrift store near Detert Park in Jackson. With a huge variety of items for sale, including the donated books, it takes many hours to maintain a clean, well-organized store. So teen volunteers work with store staff to stock new items and spruce up each section. The activities provide a healthy environment for teen interaction and team work. And the store's clients benefit as well.

By Board Member Kirk Lindsay



FACL Book Table a Big Draw at Farmers Markets



Once again, FACL's book table at the county's well-attended farmers markets was a big hit. We raised more than \$827 thanks to the hard work of retiring board member Patti Still and her colleagues .

A Special Thanks to Special Donors

FACL could not do what it does without the incredible financial support from the community. In particular, the following donors have made a tremendous difference in our ability to support the Amador County Library and other regional efforts.

Financial Gifts

Shelving Fund

Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Creely	Kim Hip
E-rase E-Waste Event donors	Kirk & Karrie Lindsay
John & Jacquelin Schatz	Elaine Sommer
Kim & Nancy Street	

General Fund

Vinnie North Estate

Large Donations of Books

Bud Berglund	Susan Bragstad
Hattie Feritti	The Foxes of Sutter Creek
Dee Granlees	Wolf Hein, Hein & Co.
Boyd Kirkpatrick	Elisa O. Parker
Mr. & Mrs. George Schneider	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Timm

Everyone who donated to our book drive

Other

Jerry & Shirley McCarty - easel

The Friends of the Amador County Library (FACL) was formed in 1976 to support the Amador County Library. The Friends is a registered 501©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 bi-annual book sales. The Friends also actively promote gift-giving such as memorials, estate sales, donations, and group contributions.

FACL publishes a quarterly newsletter, "News & Notes" for its members. And 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 twice-yearly book sales. Over the years, the organization has contributed many thousands of dollars worth of books and equipment to the Amador County Library.

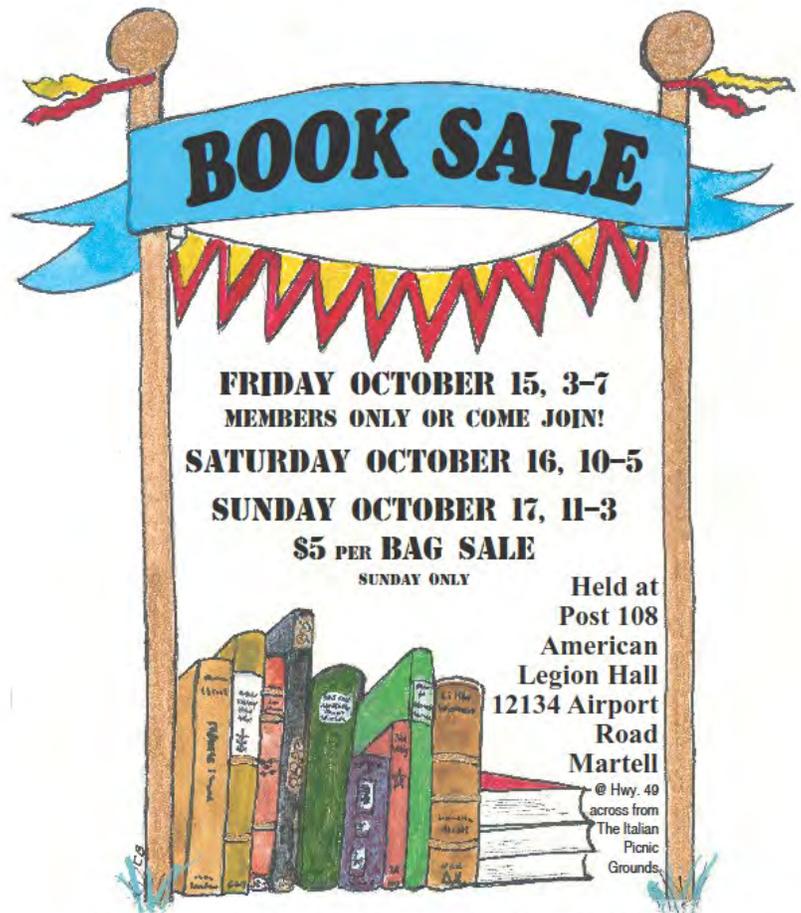
For more information about Friends of the Amador County Library, please go to <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/index.aspx?page=347> or inquire at any of the Library's five branches.



**Friends of Amador County Library
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Hosted by: Friends of the Amador County Library.
Sponsored by: Umpqua Bank, Altera Real Estate,
American Legion, and Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp.