

Chico Carrel

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August 2022

Carrel: noun...a small recess or enclosed area in a library stack, designed for individual study or reading



Greetings From Chico's Librarian

Jessie Spragge, Chico Branch Librarian

It's summer at the library! Summer Reading Program

is going strong at the Chico library, with special children's programming every Saturday, "make & take" adult crafts, movies and more! There are still a few more weeks of our summer programming and Summer Reading Game, so if you haven't checked it out yet, please stop by and ask for information at the desk.



It's finally feeling like "life as usual" in the library—we are back and so are our patrons. Children's story times are seeing up to 80 participants, book checkouts are on the rise, and last month we had almost 1300 people come through the library in ONE DAY. The library is once again a busy community space, and we are so happy to see our patrons



in person again (though we DO still offer curbside services for those who prefer a little distance).



Coming up soon, we plan to re-launch all-ages Maker Programming, and start our new "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" program. "1000 Books" is a nation-wide program aimed at empowering parents and caregivers to encourage pre-literacy skills in 0-5 year old children—mainly through providing resources to them, and challenging them to read 1000 books to their child before the child starts kindergarten. It's a wonderful program that I hope our Chico patrons enjoy—look for it this fall.



Financial Report: Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Diane Friedman, CFOL Treasurer



Our fiscal year is June 30 through July 1. The (fairly) good news: we had a much better year than the pandemic lockdown year.

Our income (including Book Sales at the library, internet

book sales, membership dues, memorial donations, and other donations) was \$76,450. Our expenses (including insurance, accounting, postage, printing, library programs, books and magazines, newspapers, other media, library furniture and some repairs) was \$110,358.

As you can see, we spent more than we received, but it's not as bad as it looks—our investments made up most of the loss, even though they went down just like everybody's. We did, ultimately, receive about \$2k less than we spent. Our major fundraiser is the book sale, which happens every Saturday morning from 9am to 11:30am. Go buy some books!



Books permit us to voyage through time, to tap the wisdom of our ancestors. The library connects us with the insight and knowledge... of the greatest minds that ever were, with the best teachers, drawn from the entire planet and from all our history, to instruct us... and to inspire us to make our own contribution to the collective knowledge of the human species. I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries. —Carl Sagan

CFOL Board Meetings

(open to the public)
August 16, September 20, and October 18
at the library | 6:30 pm

Book Sales!

Nancy Leek, CFOL Board



Your donations and your purchases have made Chico Friends of the Library's Book Sale an ongoing success for CFOL and your library. We're very grateful for all those who donate, and those who buy!

Since restarting in July 2021, the Book Sale has brought in \$57,690 (as of mid-July) to support the Chico Branch Library. All earnings are spent on library materials and programs.

Where does the money go? It buys the new books you read, craft supplies for children's programs, furniture for the library, and more: the Summer Reading Program and other library special programs are supported by funds from CFOL. Your donations and dollars go a long way to make the Chico Library a great place to visit and enjoy.



The Book Sale takes place every Saturday from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the library meeting room (except for holiday weekends when the library is closed). The Book Sale is well-stocked with a wide variety of books, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, and puzzles, all at bargain prices (children's books are only 25¢ each)!

The First Friday sale for CFOL members takes place from 3:00-4:30 p.m. on the first Friday of the month. Your membership entitles you to a sneak peek at the sale and a chance to purchase that special book early. We welcome NEW members at http://www.chicolibrary.org/membership/, or you can join immediately at any Friday or Saturday Book Sale.

The Book Sale can always use volunteers, especially on Fridays to help set up. If you are interested in volunteering, ask at the library circulation desk for a volunteer form.

Masks are still required for all shoppers. Please show consideration for Book Sale patrons and volunteers by wearing a mask and respecting personal space.

Book Sale Schedule Book Sale Every Saturday

August, September*, and October | 9:00-11:30am *except September 3

First Friday Book Sales

August 5, September 9, and October 7 | 3:00-4:30pm

ALVIN COFFEY The True Story of an African American Forty-Niner written by Nancy Leek illustrated by Steve Ferchaud

Coming This Autumn: A Book-Signing with Nancy Leek

Meet the author and find out about her new book Alvin Coffey: The True Story of an African American Forty-Niner

Black California Gold Miner's Story Told in Book for Young Readers

Like so many other Americans, Alvin Coffey came to California in 1849 to dig for gold—but he did not come of his own free will. Alvin was enslaved, and his owner planned to use his labor to make himself rich. He promised Alvin that he could earn money and buy his freedom, but that promise was not kept!

Alvin came to California with a dream of freedom, and hope for a better life for himself and his family. He endured overland journeys, days and nights of hard work and worry, and separation from his loving family to achieve his goal.

Alvin Coffey: The True Story of an African American Forty-Niner is the fourth book in the Golden State Biography series by Nancy Leek, and the first about a black freedom seeker. This picture book biography for young readers ages 5 to 9 and grades K-4 is highly readable and historically accurate. It features full-color illustrations onevery page by award-winning artist Steve Ferchaud.

Nancy Leek is a UC Berkeley graduate, a retired librarian, and an active local history writer (also a dedicated CFOL Board member). She is the author of three other picture books on California pioneers: John and Annie Bidwell, Nancy Kelsey, and Peter Lassen. She lives in Chico. She writes about California history on her Goldfields blog at http:// www.goldfieldsbooks.com/.

Little Free Libraries

Elizabeth Bergthold, CFOL Board



Little Free Libraries are a vital aspect of literacy in our community! They're fun and convenient for adults and kids alike. Kids who have no access to the library on Sherman Ave., can continue their learning with books from the LFLs in

their own neighborhoods (now, if they would just remember to bring them back when they're done with them)...

Ever wonder where our LFLs are located? Glad you asked! We have 5 in Chapmantown:

Boucher St. Market Has Beans Coffee and Tea Rhema Word of Faith Church 574 E. 12th St. Community Park

1406 Boucher St. 1078 Humboldt next to the

Community Center at 1010 Cleveland Dorothy Johnson Center 775 E. 16th St.

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Chico Friends of the Butte County Library P.O. BOX 6952 CHICO, CA 95927

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Plus we also have 6 more at various parks around town:

DeGarmo Park off the Esplanade

Peterson Park Denali Dr. and Rollins Lake Dr.

Oak Way Park near Emma Wilson

Elementary, on 8th St.

Rotary Park 1532 Broadway
Baroni Park on Baroni Dr.
Hancock Park off of Hudson Ave.

Volunteer LFL Stewards visit each LFL once a week to remove any trash and fill with books that we provide (no out-of-pocket expense for this good deed).



Speaking of stewards, our LFL at Oak Way Park does not have a steward, to the best of my knowledge. It is in desperate need of one. If you can help, please email me: bjbergthold@gmail.com

Chapman Elementary School has donated many boxes of



books. Many thanks to the staff for thinking of us! So we are set for kids' books at this time. If any of my stewards need kids' books for your LFL, contact me, and I'll deliver a box or two.

In the last newsletter, I wrote that we had had no vandalism. I cannot claim that this time. Our

beautiful, mystery-themed, Little Free Library at Has Beans Coffee and Tea was sprayed with black paint; fortunately, most of it came off with sanding. The artist, Christine MacShane, has agreed to touch it up. Then a couple more coats of polyurethane, and it's good to go!

Reading should not be presented to children as a chore, a duty. It should be offered as a gift.

—Kate DiCamillo

Elizabeth Quivey: Newsletter Designer Keith Herritt: Newsletter Editor