



Winter 2006/07

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# Chico Carrel

## CFOL Member Publishes Book

CFOL board member Debbie Cobb-Ceriani has just published a children's book titled *Gracie's Big Adventure with Augustine the Beaver*. The large format picture book concerns a lost beaver who wandered too far from his home pond. He encounters siblings Gracie and Joey and... well you'll have to purchase the book or check it out at the Chico branch of the library to read for yourself, or better yet to your children, to find out what happens. A full article about the author and the book can be found in the *Chico ER*, Sunday, November 12, 2006 Section E, page 1+.

## Book Mark Contest

The CFOL will be organizing a book mark contest among grade school students. The contest is slated to take place during the month of January. A committee of CFOL members will be judging the entries in two or three age/grade groups. Prizes

will be awarded and the winning bookmarks will be printed for distribution at the library. Pick up entry forms at the Children's Room of the library during the month of January. For more information and details you can check [www.chicolibrary.org](http://www.chicolibrary.org)

## Major Membership Drive

The CFOL Board has announced a major membership drive to take place during the month of February 2007. Headed by the membership board chair, Jan Sonsteng, we will try to double the number of members we currently have in the organization. We will need your help for this. For example, you might ask your next door neighbor to become a member, check with the family to see if someone might wish to join, etc.

Centered around Valentines Day there will be a mass mailing of a new brochure to a group of Chico residents extolling what CFOL does for the community with details of how we could use some more help to make our branch of the county library even better. There will be a media blitz along with the mailing as

we hope to reach everyone in the city.

As you know the usual month for renewing membership has been October. If you renewed this past autumn then your membership will be good through February 2008. This is an extra four months for the price of one year. If you receive one of our brochures in the mail and you have already joined this year, please pass it on to someone you think might be interested in the work that we do. They could possibly be interested in joining the CFOL.

## **Christmastime - Buy the Book!**

The Chico Branch Library is once again offering unique holiday gift-giving ideas. It's that time of year when you can purchase a book for the library, and at the same time, honor a friend or family member. It's time for "Christmastime—Buy the Book!" The program runs from November 27 to December 22.

The process is simple. Come into the library and look at the variety of books on the Christmas sale table, choose the one you like, purchase it and fill out the donation form. There are books of all kinds to choose from: cooking, gardening, children's, crafts, sports, art,

travel, history, and much, much more.

The Library will place a bookplate inside the book indicating who donated the book and in whose honor it was purchased. We will also notify the beneficiary. And you'll get that great holiday feeling that comes with knowing that you've done something wonderful for two dear friends--the Library and the person in whose name you purchased the book.

## **Grants, Gifts, Memorials**

A generous gift to the Chico branch of the Butte County Library has been given by the Amer family. A check in the amount of \$3,000 was presented to the library via the Friends.

Another surprise gift of \$250 was given to the library by Sharon Johnson. How kind our supporters have been.

## **Gift Giving Ideas for this Holiday Season**

*from your Friends of the Library*

The following are ideas you might wish to consider when deciding on gifts to purchase this holiday season. They are ways that can help the library and your family and friends at the same time.

### **Book Sale Gift Certificates**

Rob Atkinson, the Saturday Books Sales guru, has come up with the idea of Book Sale Gift Certificates. What a great way to save money while donating money. Gift certificates start as low as \$5 and go as high as you would like. Think how many paperbacks, or perhaps two to five hardbound books \$5 will buy. Great stocking stuffers, certificates are available at the Saturday Book Sale or at the Circulation desk of the library.

### **Buy the Book**

See information to the left

## **The Volunteer**

The Grand Marshal of the Saturday Book Sale, Rob Atkinson, spends anywhere from ten to fifteen hours per week supervising a volunteer staff of ninety plus individuals. He and his crew are responsible for averaging \$4,000 per month through a number of outlets, e.g. Desa Design and library book sales, with proceeds being turned over to the library. Not only is he dedicated to the Chico branch of the Butte County Library, he also ships about ten boxes of sale books to Orland and three boxes to Gridley to supplement *their* book sales. It should also be pointed out that Rob along with many other workers around Chico have sent about 3,000 books over the past three years to our women and men serving in our armed forces overseas, primarily in Iraq. A real plus in the near future for all of us is that Rob, acting with colleagues Rosa Weston and Joan Olmstead, and with the approval of the CFOL Board, plans to expand the Saturday book sale to four hours from 10:00 to 2:00, an increase of two and a half hours per week.

A native of the State of Washington, Rob Atkinson came to Chico in 1976 for Pioneer Days and ended up staying to study art with a local professional artist. Prior to moving to Northern California, his life was varied and exciting with a diversity of occupations. He has been a commercial fisherman, a biological research bibliographer at the University of Washington, a field biologist, and a professional artist. A few years back a friend entered a piece of his sculpture at the California State Fair in Sacramento and he won first place. Rob is clearly what we today would call a renaissance man. His love of libraries started when he was a youngster in Seattle and he relates that the book that changed his life was *Travels of Jamie McPheters* by Robert Lewis Taylor. Of course, once a child is introduced to a library it holds them for life and Rob is no exception. He has been a volunteer for the past twelve years and took over the reins of the Book Sale from Kay Eck two years ago. He serves on the CFOL board and brings fresh and unique ideas for updating and upgrading not only the Book Sale but the Friends in general.

Since moving to Chico Rob has been a ceramic artist, restaurant manager, brewer and realtor. He is currently working in the Chico branch of the Butte County Library. His wife Karen and he have a nineteen year old son

studying philosophy and physics at the University of California, Berkeley.

## **Goings and Comings**

As most of you have read, Butte County Librarian Nancy Brower is retiring effective December 15, 2006. Nancy has been with the county library for 33 years and has given her best improving library services for the citizens of Butte County. During her tenure hours and personnel have increased at branch libraries, outreach to rural areas and "shut ins" has been supplemented and the literacy program has expanded. Her accomplishments have been many and we thank her for them.

The County Board of Supervisors has chosen Derek Wolfgram from the Denver Public Library system to take over the head county library job on December 1, 2006. Derek's supervisory experience goes back to 1997, and to his new job he will bring branch management skills in most aspects of public library areas of specialization.

Young and enthusiastic, he and his wife have already made the relocation to Butte County. Receptions for Mr. Wolfgram took place in both Oroville and Chico.

**Ongoing Events**  
**CFOL Book Sale**

Saturday mornings  
10 - 11:30 a.m.

**CFOL Board Meetings**

3rd Tuesday of each month  
7:00 p.m., library conference  
room. All meetings are open.

**Internet Help Sessions**

Tuesdays 11:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

**Library Friend John  
Nopel Dies**

John Nopel passed away at  
the age of 92 on November 16,  
2006. A detailed article of his  
accomplishments can be read  
in the *Chico ER* on 11/18/06.  
Of special note, John was a  
member of the "Corporation"  
that was responsible for the  
new library building that we  
now all use at 1st and  
Sherman.

**Children's Room**

**Tuesdays 10:30**

Preschool Storytime

**Wednesdays**

**10:20** Storytime in Spanish

**7:00** Family night

**Friday 10:00 a.m.**

Toddler Storytime

**First Saturday each month**

Japanese storytime

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