

February is Membership Month

Dear CFOL member: this newsletter issue marks our annual membership drive. New members are heartily welcome! Current members, please check your address on this newsletter, and see if your membership is expiring.

You can make, renew, or gift a membership via the enclosed envelope or at <https://www.chicolibrary.org/support-the-library/>



A Word From CFOL's President: Libraries Need Friends!

Brenda Crotts, CFOL President

Did you know we may vote later this year on tax support for the library?

Through your membership, time, energy, and financial support we see your willingness to fight for your library. Friends' support will be critical to pass the possibly upcoming funding measure.

Chico Friends' support means:

- direct financing for needs not covered in the library's budget (reading and listening materials, furnishings, children's program supplies, and more) as requested.
- volunteer services by members to the Friends (sorting book donations) and the library itself (shelving and pulling and putting up holds).
- increased community awareness about the library (you help by sharing information about the library with friends and neighbors).

You help by:

- joining and renewing your CFOL membership.
- shopping the Friends' weekly and in-lobby book sale
- donating books and other media
- memorial gifts and planned giving

Libraries continue to evolve to meet the changing needs

of the community. Because of you, our library continues to grow.



...and from CFOL's Membership Chair

Merle Burbridge, CFOL Board

Resolve to support your Chico Library and Chico Friends of the Library (CFOL) in 2024!

- Join CFOL
- Visit the library and use the many in-person and online services often
- Participate in library programs
- Attend CFOL book sales
- Donate gently used books and media to the book sales
- Sign up for assistance and services through the Access to Technology program
- Give a gift membership to CFOL
- Tell your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances what a valuable community resource the Chico Library is!



Book Sale Bulletin

Nancy Leek, CFOL Board

Get the most out of your Friends of the Library membership!

CFOL offers a special perk for members. The First Friday Sale, where you get first chance at all the new bargains, is set aside for CFOL members. It happens on the first Friday of each month, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Not yet a member? You can join or renew your membership at the sale.

The year 2023 was another successful one for the Friends of the Library Book Sale. From January to December 2023 the book sale earned \$59,799. This enables CFOL to give the Chico Branch Library \$8000 a month to buy new books and other media.

Donations are always welcome and can be dropped off any time the library is open.

Thanks for making 2023 a successful year for the CFOL Book Sale!

And thanks to the Chico Enterprise Record for this nice feature! (A subscription may be required) <https://www.chicoer.com/2024/01/21/chico-branch-library-draws-a-crowd-for-weekly-book-sale/>



Photo Caption: CFOL Book Sale manager Helen Sutton's 87th birthday was celebrated by her corps of volunteers.

Think Libraries are Out of Date, No Longer Relevant? Think Again.

Here some numbers from November 2023 on library attendance.

November 2023	Total, Butte County	Chico Branch	Chico's Share
Library Visits	18,448	11,267	61%
New Patrons	345	211	61%
Circulation, with renewals	36,697	25,013	68%
Holds	3,595	2,328	65%
WIFI Use	23,190	12,721	55%
PC Use	1,168	612	52%



CFOL Treasurer's Report

Diane Friedman, CFOL Treasurer

Good news: CFOL is quite stable financially. We continue meeting our budget for expenses. We budget \$8,000/month for library materials (books, newspapers, magazines, digital books, movies, etc.).

In some months, we aren't spending all of it!. So, here is a fun suggestion: you can request whatever materials you think would enhance the library's collection! Just turn in a purchase request at the circulation desk.

The librarians are doing a fine job on their programs (childrens, adults, and teens); and we keep them well funded for supplies. Bring yourself and/or your kids to a free program at the library.!

All that we spend is funded by your membership dues, special donations, and our weekly book sales. If the library were open more than 4 days per week, we could spend even more!

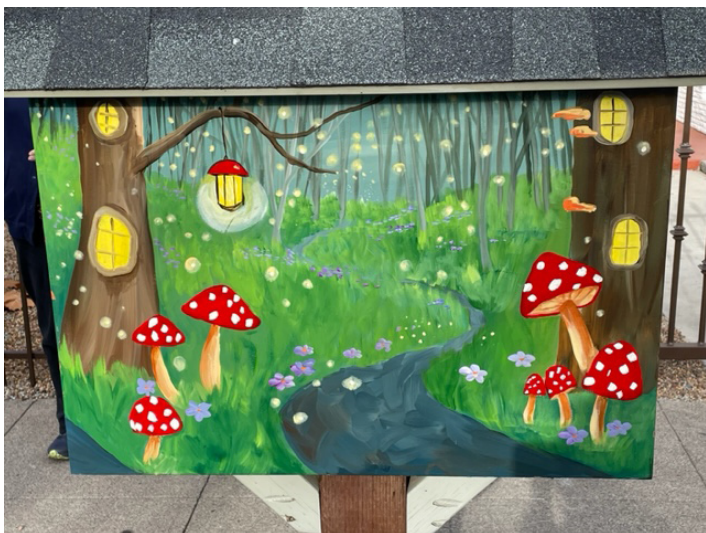


Little Free Libraries

Elizabeth Bergthold, CFOL Board

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that Joe Steck had taken it upon himself to replace the Little Free Library (LFL) in front of the Rhema Word of Faith Church on East 12th St. Then Christine MacShane worked her magic on it. Check it out when you are in the neighborhood!





I'm please to say that vandalism has not reared it's ugly head in quite awhile! The stewards have been doing a great job, keeping the boxes clean and full, no small task! THANK YOU!

These LFLs go a long way in promoting literacy into the neighborhoods. Unlike the library, the LFLs are open everyday!

If you want to donate more books than your LFL can display, please take them to the library, for the used book sale. (Overstuffed boxes are not user friendly!) Proceeds from the sale promote the library, and the LFLs.

Editor's Note: Elizabeth and the Little Free Libraries were in the news! <https://www.chicoer.com/2023/12/17/chicos-little-libraries-open-doors-to-literacy/>

Book Sale Schedule

February:

First Friday, Members Only February 2, 3-4:30pm
Saturdays 9-11:30am February 3, 10, and 24 (*NO SALE February 17*)

March:

First Friday, Members Only March 1, 3-4:30pm
Saturdays 9-11:30am March 2, 9, 16, and 23 (*NO SALE March 30*)

April:

First Friday, Members Only April 5, 3-4:30pm
Saturdays 9-11:30am April 6, 13, 20, 27

Chico Branch Library Hours

(530) 552-5652
1108 Sherman Ave
Chico, CA 95926

Tuesday: 10:00am-6:00pm
Thursday: 9:00am-6:00pm
Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm

This coupon admits you, a Chico Friends of the Library member, to the
"First Friday" Members-Only Book Sale
at 3 PM on:
February 2, March 1, and April 5!

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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