



Friends of the Atascadero-Martin Polin Library

December 2010 – January 2011

www.atascaderofriendsofthelibrary.org

NEWSLETTER



The Building at 6555 Capistrano Ave. in the Hotel Park Development across the street from City Hall could become the new home of the Atascadero Library.

President's Message:

As 2010 draws to a close, it seems quite possible that we will reach the goal we have been working toward through out the year; the purchase of the office building on Capistrano Avenue, to function as our expanded library. The Board of Supervisors has been presented with the details of the proposed purchase and will make a decision on this issue in mid December. The new library would be shared with several county offices and would consist of library space on the first floor and a community room on the second floor, with the county offices using 38% of the second story. On November 9, the City Council demonstrated unanimous support for expanding the library on Capistrano Avenue by voting to deposit into escrow the funds which have been reserved for the library: a one-time gift to the library of \$35,000, made in 1995, which has increased since then to over \$50,000 and almost \$200,000 in development mitigation fees. Among the many reasons the Friends and the County

decided to expand at the Capistrano site instead of onsite at the present library are the lower cost of adapting the Capistrano property to a larger library venue, and the fact that library services need not be interrupted while the expansion is taking place. If the Board of Supervisors votes to purchase the property, we plan to celebrate at the current library on Thursday, December 16. Watch the newspaper and check the library for further information.

Grenda Ernst, President

LAST NEWSLETTER ISSUE

Remember, this is the last issue that will be mailed to you through the post office. We plan to distribute future newsletters by email, and the newsletter will also be available on our website and at the library. To furnish us with your email address, go to

www.atascaderofriendsofthelibrary.org

and click on "contact us". Your email address will be used only by FOL and will not be shared with anyone else.

Expansion Fundraising News

Open the Doors

On December 14, the Board of Supervisors is scheduled to vote to purchase the building at 6555 Capistrano Avenue that could become the new home of the Atascadero Library. Once escrow closes, our fundraising campaign will have two years to raise the remaining \$1 million needed to finance the local share of tenant improvements. Then we can begin construction and open the doors to a beautiful new Atascadero Library.

Many people have helped us to reach this milestone. At the top of the list is our **District 5 County Supervisor Jim Patterson**. Supervisor Patterson has championed our project for many years. He guided the development of a partnership between SLO County and Atascadero FOL that will make this project financially feasible, both for Atascadero and for county taxpayers.

We thank our FOL Board Members, especially **Alice Rew and Darlene Brainard**, who have managed our used book sales for many years. Funds from these sales jump-started the expansion drive.

Our capable Steering Committee—**Grenda Ernst, Leo Pedersen, Marguerite Pulley**—along with many county employees, collaborated to find the best solution possible for expanding our library. I have been privileged to serve with them.

Our wonderful Fundraising Committee—**Georgie Arnold, Claudia Collier, Anne Harris, Liz Helgerson, Christina LeFevre, Leigh Livick, Sue Sly, Karyn Sturtevant**—along with Grenda, and Marguerite, has toiled behind the scenes for the past two years, planning fundraisers, approaching potential donors, designing brochures, etc. Their efforts generated more than \$100,000 in the past year or so.

We also thank everyone who has donated or attended our fundraisers in the past year. At a recent city council meeting, **Donn Clickard**

explained that he and his family wanted to become Founders, but could not write a check for \$1,000 at one time. Their solution was to pledge \$1000 and donate \$100/month for ten months. We hope their example will inspire others to make this commitment. Our Founders are recognized on our Web site, and they will receive permanent recognition in our new library.

Eileen O'Grady, Vice President

We welcome a new Founder:

Atascadero AAUW

Atascadero: Dancing with Our Stars



*March 12, 2011 at the Lake Pavilion
Tickets \$65 each/\$480 Table of 8*

*Tickets go on sale in January.
Please contact Leigh at 674-1140 after 1/1/11*



Select the perfect holiday gift this year. Give a donation to the Atascadero Library expansion in memory or in honor of a loved one.

Beautiful cards are available for this purpose at the library. Please make your check payable to Friends of the Library.



6555 Capistrano Avenue

*Proposed location for the new
Atascadero Library*

Why was this location selected for the library, instead of expansion on site?

This building, in a downtown, pedestrian-friendly location, will enable the library to double its space at a fraction of the cost of expansion on site. Expanding the current library would have required an additional \$2 million in local funds, not to mention the difficulty of maintaining library functions during the construction process. For the Capistrano site, Friends of the Library needs to raise an additional \$1 million for the local share of tenant improvements, and the current library will remain fully operational until construction is completed on the new site.

Were other locations considered?

Yes. The former Rite-Aid building was also considered. Safety considerations made this site less desirable. It is also a potential source of retail revenue for the city of Atascadero.

What are the next steps?

On November 9, 2010, the County Board of Supervisors approved the notice of intent to purchase this building. On December 14, they will vote on the purchase. If it passes, escrow will open; SLO County, the City of Atascadero, and Friends of the Library will all contribute funds for the purchase.

How will the library function in a 2-story building?

Most library functions will be located in the first floor of the building. On the second floor, a community room and library offices will share the space with county offices. The local firm of Ravatt Albrecht & Associates has been selected to design the interior space—which, except for the lobby, is completely unfinished. As soon as the building purchase is completed, the design process will begin.

When will construction begin?

Construction will begin as soon as the remaining \$1 million needed for the local share of tenant improvements is raised. Friends of the Library has been given a 2-year deadline to raise these funds.

How can I help?

Please send tax deductible checks, payable to Friends of the Library, to P.O. Box 9, Atascadero, CA 93423. Large donations can be pledged with monthly or quarterly installments. For more information, check our FOL Web site, www.AtascaderoFriendsoftheLibrary.org.

Reference Notes by Brian Coburn E-Books Come to the Library

Welcome to the green world of e-books! Electronic Books, that is, reading a popular fiction or nonfiction work on your PC or portable e-book reader is now available through the library. The vendor, Overdrive, offers over 1,200 e-book titles through that vendor directly. In addition, Overdrive just added many titles from the Gutenberg site www.gutenberg.org to the collection. This new service contains some 15,000 titles in the public domain, which means looking for titles by authors such as Melville, Dickens, Tolstoy or Austen should be readily available as well.

This latest literary tech trend has come to your local library using the Adobe EPUB format. For the downloads to work correctly, you will need to download Adobe Digital Editions software on your computer. In addition, you will need to register the software with a unique ID# on both your computer and your e-reader in order to download, transfer and read the e-books correctly.

Currently,

Overdrive e-book titles display on the Sony, Kobe, (the Borders Books), and Nook (Barnes and Noble) e-readers, but will not work for the Apple's iPad or Amazon's Kindle. For a quick FAQ for both e-books and audio books download, go to the website:

<http://www.slolibrary.org/audiobooks.htm>

to see various help links .

YOUTH OBESITY PREVENTION PROGRAM

Wednesday January 12, 2011

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

For: teens and adults

Martin Polin Community Room.

Reservations are recommended. For more information or to reserve a spot call Brian at 461.6162

Ann Yelmokas McDermott, Associate Professor of Kinesiology and director of STRIDE at CalPoly, will give a free presentation and discussion about obesity prevention through lifestyle changes in children and young adults.

Science through Transitional Research in Diet and Exercise (STRIDE) is a university-wide, multi-disciplinary, translational research project, initiated in 2007 by the Cal Poly Kinesiology Department. Light refreshments will be served.

FOURTH ANNUAL ADULT WINTER READING PROGRAM

January 15-April 15, 2011. The theme this season is "Get Wrapped Up in a Good Book." There will be reading lists on a range of interests to help motivate and guide participants. Read 9 books and receive prizes and surprises. For more information call Brian at 461-6162.

Youth Services

Back in October, the Atascadero High School Drama Students performed a skit during story time based on the Curious George stories by Margret Rey. Everyone enjoyed interacting with the students, who usually do some simple songs and games with the children as well. Also this month, Dave Wilson of Coyote Road School did a program called "Stranded! How would you survive?" His workshop included basic survival skills. Everyone learned how to make rope and start a fire by friction. The adults got into it even more than the preteens/teens that attended.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Atascadero Library

Martin Polin Community Room

**Dinosaurs and Other Pre-Historic
Animals of San Luis Obispo County**

Thursday, January 13th

Time: 3:30-4:30 pm Ages 5+

Space is limited. Signups are not required.

Travel back in time with Aleksandra Wyzdga, local earth scientist and adjunct faculty at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. You will go back from the end of the last global ice age to the time of the dinosaurs to learn about pre-historic animals that walked and swam over your backyard. This presentation includes a slide-show of prehistoric animal images as well as an opportunity for kids to both see and touch both real fossils and replicas of

real fossils. Find out what fossils have been found right here in SLO County!

Read, Sing and Dance-Along with Melissa Green

**Thursday, February 17th
Time: 3:30 pm -Ages 2-7**

Space is limited. Signups are not required.

This lively concert features interactive pop-folk music from Melissa Green's first and second albums and sing-along picture books including Melissa's newly published book, "The Seahorse Song." As a former pre-school teacher, Melissa's songs include counting and coordination and inspire kids to use their imagination. This high energy show will have everyone up on their feet!

Joan Bloomfield, Children's Librarian



Paws to Read

Shown in this picture are Simone Stansberry and Kayla Basden with Anne Harris and Captain, a certified therapy dog. Captain will be back on December 2 and 9 from 4-5 PM

Direct from Deborah

Welcome Captain! Our newest library volunteer has four legs, a rough coat and is a good listener. Captain, Jack Russell terrier who lives with Anne Harris and Mark Stengel, started work in the Reading to Rover program on Thursday November 19. He is available on most Thursdays, by appointment, between 4 and 5 pm for youngsters in the k-3rd grade range. The goal of

this program is to give confidence and skill to young readers who may be uncomfortable reading to a teacher, parent, or 2-legged friend. Captain is a Certified Therapy Dog which means he has special training and health check-ups. Other libraries around the country, including SLO and Los Osos branches have had terrific success with these Paws to Read sessions.

Our newest staff member is Lee McDaniel, who comes to us for a year-long assignment from Path Point. She is in training to become a library administrative assistant. Her current duties in the half-time project include shelving in the children's room, mending books, and helping Miss Joan prepare for story times and other children's activities. Eventually she will be acting as a computer docent, helping customers set up email accounts and navigate the various employment-related sites on the Internet.

We have bid a fond farewell to Mary Shaffer, the only redhead behind the circulation desk. After ten years with the library, Mary and her husband Bill have loaded up their new camper van for adventures in the land of retirement. When they get tired of exploring the West, we hope to have Mary back occasionally as a substitute while other staff members take vacations.

In other news at the library, we are reconfiguring the circulation desk. When this project is completed customers will return books and other items to a slot in the lobby wall within the Friends books sale area instead of stacking them on the counter. They will be checked in, sorted, and arranged for re-shelving or return to other libraries in the workroom. The second phase of the project will be to install one or two self-check machines. Customers will check out their own materials as they exit the building. These improvements will provide more customer privacy, prevent repetitive motion injuries, and allow staff members to be more accessible "out on the floor" to help with questions and reader's advisory. Of course, customers with special needs will still be able to have help checking out "the old fashioned way."

Our staff is contributing to the fundraising efforts for the new building by holding a monthly silent auction in the lobby display case. We gleaned items from our own personal collections to start the process. Anyone may bid on any item and

claim it at the end of each month. Donations for possible items to sell are warmly welcomed. Please make sure they are small enough to fit in the display case, and are in good taste and condition. We hope to eventually offer photos of the items on the friend's website, as the Nipomo Friends group has done. They have had a lot of fun with it in the south part of our county and have earned a considerable amount of money to support their library. It's a fun way to "go green!"

Deborah Schlanser, Branch manager

**Financial Statement
RABO Bank Checking Account
September 1 – October 31, 2010**

Income	\$
Machines, Magazines and Lobby Book Sales	1,222
Book sales	1,229
Membership	505
Donation undesignated	35
T-shirts	27
Advertisement	150
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Total	3,168
 Expenses	
Children's Programs	701
Adult Programs	88
Postage	88
PG&E	8
Printing	160
Adm. Management	801
Equipment	54
Fundraising	5
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Total	1,905
	<hr/>
Balance +	1,263
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Darlene Brainard, Treasurer

**Albertson's Community Partners
Program Update**

Thank you to all the library patrons that submitted their Albertson's card number to the Atascadero Friends of the Library over the past few years. Unfortunately, Albertson's has discontinued this program so we no longer need to collect card information from new participants. Again, thank you for your support and dedication.

Leigh Livick,
Expansion Campaign Steering Committee

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Linda Bareis
John Donovan, State Farm Insurance
Constance Middleton-Frayer & David Frayer
Liz Woods
Paul & Gretchen Gray
Patricia Williams

Donations

We thank the following people for their generous contributions:

Robert and Virginia Powers
John and Diana Lehman
In honor of Grenda Ernst Birthday:
Georgie Arnold
Darlene Brainard
Bars Brogan
Claudia Collier
Anne Eisenzimmer
Kathy McCarey
M.K. Pulley
Kay Rasband
Alice Rew
Sophie and Henry Ridder
Mary Shaffer

**Friends of the Atascadero Library
P.O. Box 561, Atascadero CA 93423
www.atascaderofriendsofthelibrary.org**

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Holiday Sale

Lobby Sales

The Kiosk

You can buy slightly used books and magazines in the Lobby as well as CDs and some DVDs

Come and browse, we have many good books at a low price.

The Kiosk is open whenever the library is. You can pay for it at the circulation desk, just around the corner.

Silent Auction

Our Library Staff has joined the Fund Raising by starting a monthly Silent Auction. The items to be auctioned are shown in the display case in the Lobby. We are gladly accepting donations of items small enough to fit in the display case. The auction will be held at the end of the month. The staff can inform you of the details.



Display Case with items for the "Silent Auction"

Book Sale!



Friday, December 10, 2010

From 6 to 8 PM

(for members only)

Saturday, December 11, 2010

From 9 AM to 2 PM

At the Book House

6907 Atascadero Avenue

(behind the Library)

Great Selection of Novels

Romance, Mystery, Science Fiction

Biographies and Adventures

Many other non-fiction books available

Children's Books from Toddlers to Teens

Video and Audio Cassettes,

Books on Tape or on CD

CDs and DVDs

Hundreds of Soft-cover Books

***ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE
ATASCADERO LIBRARY***