



# Friends of the Alpharetta Library

238 Canton St  
Alpharetta, GA 30009  
www.fotal-forum@yahoogroups.com

Quarterly Newsletter from the FOTAL Group.

Volume 3, Number 1 Winter, 2010 - 2011

A room without books is like a body without a soul.....  
Cicero



## Letter from our President

2010 - what a year!!

*These are items you have been asking about concerning the Library*

## 2010 Recap

### New Children's Programs were held:

- ... the Bio-Bus - a free event sponsored and taught by Georgia State University.
- ... 'Parents to Parents', information for parents of children with special needs
- ... a Spelling Bee
- ... a Math challenge
- ... Movie afternoon's
- ... Art Programs in the AFTERNOON for kids grades 1 - 5

### and Youth and teen Programs:

- ... programs by Kaplan for parents and kids, explaining what to expect from college admissions policies and financial aids
- ... Anime - Manga programs and movies
- ... crafts - etched glass, how to make sushi, drawing contest for Anime tickets.

### we sent Books to:

- SCHOOLS in APPALACHIA.... in ROME, GA.... to FOSTER Children...
- NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL... local SCHOOLS in need... SPECIAL NEEDS schools WITHOUT LIBRARIES...

and..

*we lost our Children's and Youth Librarians (congratulations on their promotions) plus another librarian retired (boo-hoo).*



**Did you know ??? ?**

That you can get a list of the 'HOTTEST' books or DVDs from the home page of the Library???? (afpls.org then the LINK to Bookletters & Booksellers)

**Lapsit Story time for children 0 to 4 years starts up again January 11. 10:30 am is the start time.**

### 1: THE NEW ALPHARETTA LIBRARY SITE:

Project managers, Heery/Russell, have been chosen for the new libraries / renovations within the system. The bonds are in the process of being sold. The first libraries to be built are those where land had already been donated. The Alpharetta Library site is still being studied. No specific site has been selected, as far as we know. Read details about the project at [www.afpls.org](http://www.afpls.org) and click on Building for the Future which is written under a picture of blueprints.

### 2. CURRENT STAFF:

Many of you have commented about the current lack of staff members. Several positions are vacant. We understand that the Young Adult position has been eliminated so the Children's Librarian will now also responsible for the Young Adult responsibilities. Also needed is a person to fill a full-time position vacated when Irene Fields retired in December. Ms. Fields was an immeasurable help to the Friends and the patrons. We are hopeful that interviews will be held very soon to help find suitable individuals to fill these much-needed positions. We are often the 4th busiest library in the system so please give thanks to the remaining five full-time workers and the two part-time workers who are doing extra duty to meet the needs of the patrons.

### 3. THE FRIENDS OF THE ALPHARETTA LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS:

IN 2010 FOTAL volunteers donated over 6,000 hours. The top four volunteers within the entire 34 facility library system were FOTAL volunteers. All volunteers were recognized at a downtown volunteer reception last April.

### 4. BOOK DONATIONS:

Book donations from our citizens are at a ten-year high as far as number of books donated for our sales. Many of these books are put onto the shelves for check out inside the library whereas many are sold at our monthly book sales. Thank you for the donations. We are also proud that the Mayor and the City Council of Alpharetta recognize our efforts and present us with a \$10,000 check yearly.

See you at our monthly book sales that are held the first Saturday of each month - 10 am to 4 pm.

**Ben Statham**  
President

**2011 FOTAL Board**

President	Ben Statham
Vice-President	Kathleen Smith
Secretary/Treasurer	Linda Statham
Membership	Barb Mitchell
Book Sales	Barbara Selwyn
Publicity	Susan Fornek
	Gerrie Fornek
Books for Soldiers	Gerrie Fornek

**FOTAL Membership**

Membership in FOTAL is easy. Just fill out a form at our sales available from Barb Mitchell. Or, you can go on-line to [fotal.org](http://fotal.org) at any time. Membership prices are on the form. It's \$5 for individuals.

The money is used for the Library needs. You will get notifications of sales and events being held and a bookmark to remind you.

**BOOK SALES**

ANY CHANGES TO OUR SCHEDULE WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE -FOTAL-FORUM.ORG

- February 5
- March 5
- April 2

Sale Hours:  
10am to 4pm  
Rain or Shine

Teachers: Bring your ID, receive 1/2 off

Bring your own Bag, get a 50 cent discount

- Children's Books start at 25 cents
- Paperbacks start at 50 cents
- Oversized paperbacks start at 1\$
- Hardbacks start at 1\$

**YOU CAN BUY OUR BOOKS ON-LINE ANYTIME**

- <http://shops.half/ebay.com/alphalibrary>
- [www.amazon.com/shops/alphalibrary](http://www.amazon.com/shops/alphalibrary)
- [www.amazon.com/shops/fotal42](http://www.amazon.com/shops/fotal42)

**Alpharetta Library**

238 Canton Street  
Alpharetta, GA 30009  
770-740-2425  
Mon-Wed: 10:00 - 8:00  
Thurs: 10:00- 6:00  
Fri-Sat: 11:00-6:00

**BOOKS... BOOKS... BOOKS....**

Some interesting thoughts by interesting people!

*Books to the ceiling,  
Books to the sky,  
My pile of books is a mile high.  
How I love them! How I need them!  
I'll have a long beard by the time I read them.  
Arnold Lobel*

*Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside a dog, it's too dark to read.  
grocho Marx*

*The wisest mind has something yet to learn.  
George Santayana*

**Our Volunteers**

How can we thank our Loyal Volunteers? In the 'Letter from the President' section the number of hours given each year is huge. They are with us RAIN or SHINE.... in the HEAT AND COLD. We could never be as successful as we are without them. Some of them you already know:

**Elena** in OVERSIZED BOOKS, **George** ALL OVER THE PLACE, **Katie, Bob,** and **Lynn** in PAPERBACKS, **Charna, Barbara** and **Barb** INSIDE books, the MIDDLE and HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS who will do anything we ask. The CLEAN-UP CREW who bring the books over from storage and haul them back every month. Huge and Cheers to them ALL.....

- BEN..... the Prez
- LINDA .... Queen of the Minutes
- KATHLEEN.... the Knitting Farmer
- SUSAN... resident Chef, publicity pusher
- BARB.... Membership maven and flower lady
- BARBARA.... the Doer of Everything
- GERRIE... Books for Soldiers flag-carrier



**DONATIONS**

We depend on your generous donations to supply us with books for our sales. ***This is the lion-share of our income and we APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY!***

Lately we have received books no one can use. They are dirty, torn, some are mildewed and totally unusable. Please take the time to go through the books you are dropping off. When they come to us in this condition we must DISPOSE OF THEM.

If you are donating, think about the book's condition, and ask yourself this question: **WOULD YOU GIVE THIS BOOK TO A FRIEND?** If the answer is **NO...then we don't want them either!**

Thanks for your consideration.





# Books for Soldiers



### The Wreath

Symbolic of the achievements and laurels gained in minimizing accident potentials through the ingenuity & devotion to the duty of its members

### The Bomb

Copied from the design of the WWII bomb disposal badge, the represents the historic and major objective of the EOD attack, the unexploded bomb. The 3 fins represent the major areas of nuclear, conventional and chemical/biological interest.

### The Lightening Bolts

Symbolize the potential destructive power of the bomb, & the courage & professionalism of EOD personnel in their endeavors to render explosive ordnance harmless.

### The Shield

Represents the EOD mission to protect personnel and property to the utmost, and to prevent detonation.



### Note From Afghanistan:

In previous newsletters we've included letters from the Soldiers who have received donations of books, DVDs and games from FOTAL plus Cards you've written at our Book Sales (or your children have written). An e-mail from 'David' was received in December that speaks volumes about how they feel about getting the "care/goodie boxes".

*"I like to let the folks at home know that the packages that they took such care and trouble to put together made it somewhere and that they are appreciated. I am also including some pics of us here at FOB WARRIOR. There are only about 50 American troops here including the 6 of us, and all the rest are Polish troops or contractors. "... he goes on to say that it has been hard to communicate with them due to the language barriers. They are teaching them new ways of 'warfare' as they are pretty old-school Russian trained. He mentioned wanting to learn Polish through the Rosetta Stone learning process and asked if we found one, they'd appreciate it. So, FOTAL purchased a new copy and it is in the mail to him.*

I've not included a description of what this troop does but they are 'EOD' which translates to Explosive Ordnance Detonation... so they find bombs that have not blown up and blow them up! Yikes! David enclosed their LOGO and description which you see at the top of the page.

We've corresponded several times - he's from Delaware and feels our pain over the cold weather. But, who can complain when we're in the US and they aren't. Keep those cards coming - please!

Gerrie



### Retirement of our Librarian - Irene

We miss Irene so much. Aside from her always present smile, she was the driving force to getting new books purchased (using FOTAL funds). She deserves this wonderful retirement after so many, many years working at several libraries in the Fulton County System.

Look at that artwork !!!!!



STORY TIME

teach me

