



Friends of the Alpharetta Library

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Quarterly Newsletter from the FOTAL Group.

Fall, 2014

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Good News.... Bad News!

Good News - at least for some Libraries
If you have not already read about this in the AJC, Library Hours for the **10 Busiest Libraries** will be changed to be open on Friday's.

Bad News: Alpharetta Library is not considered one of the busiest **even though it ranks 4th or 5th** in circulation (number of books processed through the system).

In North Fulton, Roswell, Ocee, Spruill Oaks will be open plus Sandy Springs. **Why not ALPHARETTA?** Seems someone should have looked at the geography of the area since there is nothing open in our corner of the county.
READ ON



A Letter from Ben

Libraries are continuing to be headed toward the electronic age and some of us (maybe rather reluctantly) are trying to keep up with those changes. As we get closer to receiving the new library next Spring with it's 25,000 square feet of space, we anticipate the additional amounts of electronic equipment that the building will house. FOTAL is blessed to have a new President, Gerrie Fornek, who enjoyed a long successful career in the field of computers and electronics with a nationally known company. Several of our faithful volunteers either currently work in that field or have retired from the field. They continue to try to help some of us understand and accept the changes. Pure and simple, some of us still love to hold a real book in our hands.

Personally, as a young child growing up in Atlanta, I wandered over to the library in our community quite often. I spent hours just moving from bookcase to bookcase, picking up books, thumbing through the pages and always finding something of great interest. The kind librarians always seemed to have time to guide me or answer my questions. It was always a positive environment.

Speaking of browsing through books, today I picked up Atlanta Rising by Frederick Allen. Allen tells about the late William B. Hartsfield and how, after not finishing high school, he went on to educate himself reading all he could find on law issues. He solicited reading lists from college presidents. He scoured books in the public libraries. By middle age, he became knowledgeable on many topics, especially air transportation. Most of us have flown in and out of the Hartsfield Jackson Airport. Being the son of a tinsmith, he became a self-educated successful gentleman due to his love of knowledge and libraries.

We will continue to have our book sales where those of you who still love to hold a "real" book in your hands can join us on the first Sat. of each month and buy a good bargain. Happy Reading!!
Ben Statham

A survey was done of the average number of hours that our neighboring counties' libraries are open per week compared to Fulton. Including the hours of each Central library and, in AFPLS' case, the hours of the Auburn Avenue Research Library as well, here are the numbers:

Clayton 60.7	Cobb 46.4	Population numbers: Cobb: pop: 770,442 Coweta: pop: 130,929 Gwinnett: 842,046 Fulton: pop: 977,773
Coweta 50.75	DeKalb 45.3	
Gwinnett 50	Fulton 30.3	

In a bulletin sent out on May 19th, the night before the election, *Fulton County Commissioner John Eaves* said the following:
"...the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System will unveil a plan to restore Friday hours by re-allocating existing library resources.

As a result, 12 library branches will be open on Fridays and seven branches will have hours during every day of the week. The move would come after numerous requests from the library patrons to ensure facilities provide the public with additional access to library resources."
Note that the change HAS OCCURRED. Thank you.

While this was encouraging, the word "re-allocating" is not "restoring" and only 10 libraries had hours restored. One can only wonder what this all will mean when we open our new library!

On May 29th, at Milton's new library groundbreaking, Commissioner Liz Hausmann mentioned the recent changes in the library's hours of operation saying, "Our library system is going through transitions. I regret that we had to cut hours, but it's only temporary, I assure you." (Quoted in the Roswell Neighbor, 6/4/2014.) **We want to remain positive as the new library becomes a reality. Currently we have a staff of five and are open 5 days a week. What happens when we more than double the size of the building?**

Summer Reading Program Recap

This summer's Reading Program, which is a state sponsored program, had an impressive turnout at Alpharetta Library.

THANKS to ANNE VAGTS, Children/Youth librarian
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS (ages 0 - 11)

Children Registered: 722
Programs held: 10
Attendance at Programs: 812
of books read: 7502

TEEN PROGRAMS (ages 12 -18)
Teens Registered: 162
Programs held: 6
Attendance at Programs: 59
of books read: 420

FOTAL donated \$2685 for the Summer Reading Program and many of the books given to the children at the end of the program.

2011 FOTAL Board Members

BOARD MEMBERS

President : Gerrie Fornek
 V-President: Ben Statham
 Secretary: Gerrie Fornek
 Treasurer: Linda Statham
 Children's Books: Kathy Peters
 Book Sales: Barbara Selwyn
 Publicity: Susan Fornek
 Paperbacks: Bob Moore
 Bri Baker

Honorary Members:

Juli Kearns, FOTAL webmaster
 Adam Maroney, Principal, AES
 William McCormick
 Jim Paine



FOTAL Membership

Membership in FOTAL is easy. Just fill out a form at our BOOK SALE. Or, go on-line to fotal.org at any time. Membership prices are on the form

What do you get with your Membership? Knowledge that you are directly supporting your library, books on the shelves, supplies and programs and a tote bag to use at the sales for a discount.

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

November 1
 December 6

Sale Hours:
 10am to 4pm
 Rain or Shine

Teachers: Bring your ID, receive 1/2 off books used in your classroom

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
www.amazon.com/shops/fotal42

Alpharetta Library
 238 Canton Street
 Alpharetta, GA 30009
 770-740-2425

Monday and Wednesday: 10:00am - 6:00pm
 Tuesday: 2pm - 6pm
 Thursday: 12pm - 8pm
 Friday: closed
 Saturday: 1pm - 5pm

AS AN ASIDE TO THE BOOKS AT ALPHARETTA LIBRARY:

If you ever wondered where all our books come from at the monthly sale (donations) OR if you wondered what happened to those books AFTER YOU DONATED THEM (aside from being sold at our monthly book sale)..... PLEASE..... PLEASE.... PLEASE READ ON:

We (the Friends) can't keep track of all the books received every day from our great Patrons, but this FACT came from ANNE VAGTS and CAROLYN BEAN, 2 of our librarians:

"In September the library was able to add **391 books to its collection**. That's 269 Juvenile/Young Adult books, and 122 Adult books. In addition, we were able to add 19 books to the collection that the Friends purchased from Barnes and Noble."

IN SEPTEMBER ALONE... AND FROM BOOKS DONATED BY YOU... 391 BOOKS WERE PUT ON THE SHELVES OF OUR LITTLE LIBRARY. So, next time you ask WHAT BENEFITS ARE THERE JOINING THE 'FRIENDS' OR DONATING BOOKS... think about the good that you just made happen!



A TEEN'S PERSPECTIVE ON READING AND SHAKESPEARE. BY KAYLA F.



Reading is one of the greatest pastimes, but sometimes the requirement to read for school gets students feeling like reading is just another chore, and they refuse to see it for what it could be.

The first thing that comes to mind when one thinks "school reading" is Shakespeare. It can be tricky approaching the subject of Shakespeare with teenagers. Who wants to read a play that was written over 400 years ago and is barely comprehensible in our modern society? Or think about it this way: Who wants to admit that they enjoy Shakespeare? Believe it or not, it is possible for students nowadays to enjoy classics from the Shakespearean area and beyond. But Shakespeare and other great playwrights were not meant to be taught - they were meant to be *experienced*.

Think about it this way. Have you ever sat down and read a play? Did you like it? Did it affect you in the way that some of the world's great novels have? As a member of my school's theatre department, I read plays often, but the feeling is never the same reading it as it is when we are performing it, or reading aloud, and everyone gets a true sense of the playwright's intent: the emotion behind the dialogue, the symbolism woven within the actions and stage directions. There's just something...captivating about the whole thing.

Shakespeare is no exception to this. His plays were revolutionary and inventive for the period he was in, but that should not mean that they need to die with him. They've lasted so long because of the impression they left on those that were there to experience it. Why should we not have this same perspective now? Why is the subject such a bore to students these days? We are teaching our students all the wrong things. Shakespeare is not meant to be read, but to be seen. By changing one's point of view, so many doors open to new knowledge and thoughts, and only then can we truly see what is beautiful about his work. It's all a matter of perspective.

Kayla

*We know what we are, but not what we may be.
 William Shakespeare*

BOOK SALES



FOOD FOR THOUGHT
Chef Susan

What to do with the end of season fruits and vegetables?

Fall means END OF SUMMER fruits, vegetables and herbs you have been growing in your garden or buying at the grocery stores. They have reached the end of their cycle but some of us don't want to let go of the flavors. So here are a few things you can do while they are still available.

Pickle the cucumbers or peppers. This is not hard to do and only takes 30 minutes from start to finish. Pickles are ready to eat in 2 weeks. Peppers 3 weeks. Keep in the refrigerator.

Make Herbal salts.

(This would be a nice addition to gift food baskets.)

1/3 cup basil, oregano, thyme, or sage

(optional: a combination of several also makes an 'Italian-style' salt)

2 tbsp. chives

3 tbsp. Kosher salt

Put the herbs and salt in a mini-processor and whiz until finely ground. Stir in another 3 tbsp. Kosher salt.

1. Pour the mixture onto waxed or parchment paper or a paper towel and let dry for 24 hours. Stir around a few times to make sure everything is drying evenly.
2. Put the mix into small bottles for use or gift giving.
3. Store airtight up to 4 months.

Basil or **sage** salts are wonderful sprinkled on chicken, pork or pasta. A **combination of herbs** is tasty on sautéed veggies, any root vegetable, i.e., winter squash, beets, sweet & regular potatoes.

Experiment!

Aside: we found small bottles for 99c @ Cost Plus

FRIENDS PRESENTS 3 SCHOLARSHIPS!

This article appeared in the NORTH FULTON REVIEW newspaper August 17, 2014. We wish to thank Candy Waycaster for the article and picture.

Friends of Alpharetta Library present scholarships

ALPHARETTA, Ga. - The Friends of the Alpharetta Library (FOTAL) have presented three scholarships to recent graduates from North Fulton high schools. Receiving the annual scholarships were, from left, Brian Bolden, Adesuwa Imafidon and John Quinlan. Imafidon, a graduate of Alpharetta High School, received the Dr. Robert Fulton Scholarship, while Bolden and Quinlan, graduates of Milton High, were presented the Ralph L. Anderson Scholarship. FOTAL board members present during the awards presentation included, from left, Gerrie Fornek, secretary, Heather Staniszewski, volunteer manager for the Fulton Library System, Barbara Selwyn, book sales representative, Linda Statham, treasurer, and Ben Statham, president.



Beware of false knowledge; it is more dangerous than ignorance.
 George Bernard Shaw

Books for Soldiers

The Friends have been sending Books to Soldiers for quite a few years now. We're not the only ones. See the note below:

"BOOKS FOR TROOPS, INC. (BFT) was started in southern Saratoga County, New York, in April 2010 by retired school teacher, Ellen Keegan who wanted to gather books to send to our troops serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. Her idea was to give them a source of escape from the horrors they were seeing each day; to offer them a release from loneliness, boredom, stress, homesickness, and fear; and to show them that they were not forgotten by those at home that they were sacrificing so much to keep free. "

"Our mission has expanded over the years since BFT has been in existence to include 18 VA hospitals across the US; the American Red Cross Wounded Warriors Program, as well as the families of the troops, in particular the children. "

We can attest to the continuing requests received through the organization FOTAL uses: Books for Soldiers. Just this month several boxes were sent to Korea where troops from Georgia were getting ready for the monsoon season.

The Holiday season is several months away but we have to plan now for those shipments since arrival of care packages cannot be times. FOTAL will put a box in the Library lobby specifically for November and December shipments. We need:

- magazines less than a year old
 - DVDs that are recent and in their containers
 - puzzle books of all kinds: Sudoku, crosswords, anagrams
 - handheld or small games or board games
 - card games such as Uno, dice
 - cards and pens to write home
 - paperback books: spy novels, history, military history fiction and non-fiction
- PLEASE - PLEASE: the books must be paperbacks and in good condition. They have very little personal space and who wants an old, musty book!!!

Cub Scout Pack 1429 gets Library Cards!



Photographer: Bill Larsen

Alpharetta Presbyterian Church's Cub Scout Pack 1429 met at the Alpharetta Library on Thursday, September 18th for a tour led by Librarian Michael Salpeter. The Wolf den left with library cards and a greater understanding of how the library functions.

Kathy Peters, FOTAL Board Member and Children's Books coordinator is the co-Leader of Pack 1429. Hopefully this happy experience will influence reading as one of their activities.

War to End all Wars Anniversary - SEPTEMBER 1,

September 1, 2014, 25 years after the 'War to end all Wars' ended, Germany invaded Poland which started WW 2. This time period continues to be the subject of many current books and films. Some of the more recent historic novels can be found at the library.

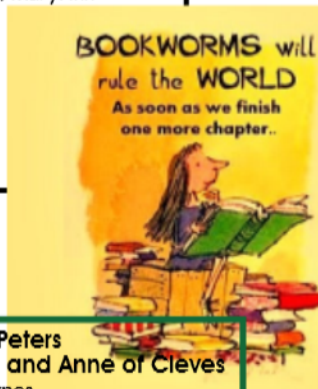
- > *Code Name Verity*, Elizabeth Wein
- > *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter & Sweet*, Jamie Ford
- > *The Zookeeper's Wife*, Diane Ackerman
- > *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Pie Society*, MaryAnn Shaffer
- > *Suite Françoise*, Irene Nemirovsky
- > *The Book Thief*, Markus Zusak
- > *All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr
- > *Wives of Los Alamos*, Tara Shea Nesbit
- > *The Girls of Atomic City*, Denise Kiernan

**Georgia Center for the Book Advisory Council recently released Books All Georgians Should Read in 2014**

- War Like The Thunderbolt: The Battle and Burning of Atlanta* - Russell Bonds
- Reign of Madness* - Lynn Cullen
- The Starboard Sea* - Amber Dermont
- The Complete Poems of James Dickey* - James Dickey, edited by Ward Briggs
- Must Win: A Season of Survival for a Town and Its Team* - Drew Jubera
- The Many Deaths of the Firefly Brothers* - Thomas Mullen
- Eat Drink Delta: A Hungry Traveler's Journey...* - Susan Puckett
- The World of the Salt Marsh: Appreciating...* - Charles Seabrook
- Thrall: Poems* - Natasha Trethewey
- The Grey Album: On the Blackness of Blackness* - Kevin Young

Books All YOUNG Georgians Should Read in 2014

- Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale* by Carmin Deedy, ill. by M Austin
- Cosmo's Moon* by Devin Scillian, ill. by Mark Braught
- Ruth and the Green Book* by Calvin Ramsey with G Strauss, illus. by F Cooper
- Just One Bite* by Lola Schaefer, ill. by Geoff Waring
- It Jes' Happened: When Bill Taylor Started to Draw* by Don Tate, ill. by R G Christie
- The Dagger Quick* by Brian Eames (mid-grades)
- The Shifter* by Janice Hardy (mid-grades)
- Sweetly* by Jackson Pearce (YA)
- Cleopatra's Moon* by Vicky Alvear Shecter (YA)
- Henry Franks* by Peter Adam Salomon (YA)

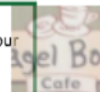
**Book Review from Kathy Peters****My Lady of Cleves: A Novel of Henry VIII and Anne of Cleves**
by Margaret Campbell Barnes

The historical novel *My Lady of Cleves* tells the story of Anne of Cleves, Henry VIII's fourth wife. Originally written in 1946, the work has been republished for the next generation of readers. The book focuses on Anne of Cleves from just before her marriage to Henry VIII to just after his death in 1547. While Anne enters the marriage as part of a diplomatic arrangement, the reader cries with Anne as she over hears the King refer to her as a Flanders Mare and furthermore fall in love with her lady-in-waiting Catherine Howard. While Anne of Cleves and Henry VIII's marriage lasts less than a year, Anne remains living in England for the duration of her life leading the reader to wonder what could have been if Henry had just given Anne a chance.

The City of Alpharetta. Thank you Mayor Belle Isle and the City Council for your continued encouragement and contributions.



Bagel Boys 11770 Haynes Bridge Road.
We'd like to thank Bagel Boy's for supplying bagels for the volunteer crew at our Saturday Book Sales. Stop in for breakfast or lunch. Take a few home along with a 'schmear' of cream cheese.



FOTAL Supporters

Book Review: Ripped: How the Wired Generation Revolutionized Music by Greg Kot

Music has been an impenetrable staple of our culture and a commodity that has not lost its demand. It has been permanently ingrained in our heritage, but it is also something volatile in nature. It has not only altered in terms of its form but also in terms of distribution, consumption and profitability.

One of the greatest paradigm shifts the music industry faced in relation to how music was disseminated and received happened in the midst of the digital age. Chicago Tribune music critic and journalist Greg Kot masterfully details this account in his book "Ripped" and provides captivating insights and personal stories of how artists and audiences adapted to the digitation of music.

Many people saw the advent of the internet and its role in music as a threat to the structure of the industry. To a hyperbolic extent some believed it would eventually lead to the industry's death. This was of course not the case, but a major rethinking of how those in the business were to thrive needed to take place.

Innovations such as peer to peer file sharing sites like Napster allowed listeners to download the music from their favorite artists for free. For some artists this would mean exposure to a wider audience, but it would also significantly cut into their primary source of income as well as the label's. Kot discusses the ethical dilemmas involved with sites like Napster and how specific artists responded to the rise of access to free music. Some bands such as Metallica fought against the trend and initially wanted such websites to shut down; however, other artists such as Radiohead and Prince saw the free release of music as a promotional tool and eventually as a way to circumvent the restrictions their label placed on them.

Kot illustrates how the internet was largely responsible for limiting the extreme regulations that giant media conglomerates like Sony and Clearwater Chanel placed on artists and how the internet allowed the bands and their fans greater independence in what would be released.

This book covers everything from copyright infringements in relation to Sample-based music, artist's adaption to entrepreneurial roles and how small blogs such as "Pitchfork" exploded into authoritative voices in the music industry. For any one remotely interested in the inner-workings of the music business this is a must read.

Reviewed by William McCormick