



# Friends of the Alpharetta Library

238 Canton Street

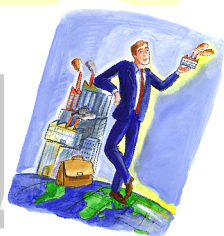
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Quarterly Newsletter from the FOTAL Group.

Volume 1, Number 2 Spring and Summer, 2010

"It's a funny thing about life; if you refuse to accept anything but the best, you very often get it."



## Interview with our Youth/Teen Librarian

We interviewed Marlan Brinkley, our Youth and Teen Librarian as he was putting together the Summer Programs. He has been such a positive force since coming to the Library. We thought you'd like to get to know him.

**1. Marlan, how many years have you been a Librarian?**

*5 years and counting... A friend talked me into interning at a public library in the children's and teen department. I was completely hooked!*

**2. Why have you focused on this age group?**

*So much is happening in teen services, it's an exciting time to be in the field. Several years ago, almost no one was writing for teens and what was written wasn't worth their time or would only appeal to a certain cultural niche. These days there's what I'd call 'an embarrassment of riches' in youth literature. The youths themselves are fascinating in their reactions to the global world.. and the technology they interact with.*

**3. What would you like to provide for this age group? You're competing with FaceBook, YouTube, texting, etc.**

*First of all, I'm not competing against any of these things. All of these technologies are simply excellent opportunities to communicate and interact with youths. These technologies make it much easier to inform youth about programs we're offering. Overall, I'd like to provide the youth a place in their community, dedicated to offering services to them, their needs, and interests.*

**4. What's the "BIG DEAL" for them today, in your opinion?**

*That's a tough one. The best way to answer your questions is to say, the 'big deal for teens... other teens. Most youths are influenced by their peer's interests. While celebrities are interesting and fun to watch and certainly affect language and style, not a single one has the same influence as a teen's friends. Trend-wise, I feel that teens are certainly taking the public nature of the technology more seriously and coming to understand the consequences. Oh, and I'm sorry to tell you the 90s are now considered 'retro'..ouch!*

## Letter from the President

Fulton County Commissioner Lynne Riley has written a statement about the status of our Library Facility Master Plan. In part she said "Due to concerns with the proposal and selection process, the Board of Commissioners canceled a recent contract award for project management..." "On April 15, the requests for proposal documents were released to the public for vendor consideration... personnel continue to review potential sites for the new libraries and public input is welcome." Ms. Riley also stated that all are welcome to call District 3 or email her at 404-612-8213 or [www.afpls.org](http://www.afpls.org), respectively.

We hope a Project management group can be found quickly so the selection and building can continue.

Our Summer Programs are on the horizon and this issue is dedicated to the two Librarians who have developed the programs. We hope you can participate and enjoy what will be provided.

*Ben Statham*

**5. What programs are you providing this year?**

*We're going D.I.Y. this year, so a lot of our programs will have a crafty element to them. For example, over the summer we're going to learn how to turn a simple lightbulb into a tiny terrarium, stretch a canvas so we can create our own art, and turn an Altoids Mint tin into a pinhole camera. We'll also relax and watch some fun ANIME (Japanese animation) films. We'll be offering the ANIME Weekend Atlanta Art Contest again in August. I look forward to this year's submissions.*

**6. Given unlimited time and money, what would do for the future of the Fulton County Library System?**

*Where do I start? In no particular order: Young Adult Literary Festivals; invite authors, singers, poets, and artists to stop by; more opportunities to learn how to use technology that are used in schools and the workplace; an art studio; a sound-proof room where teens could learn and practice music or simply study; multiple library teen centers all over Fulton County.*

Thank you, Marlan, for taking the time to sit with us and share your programs and thoughts.

## Teen Spring & Summer Scene Teen Books



### GEORGIA PEACH BOOK AWARD FOR TEEN READERS

The purpose of this award is to highlight and promote the best current young adult literature for high school age students, to encourage reading and to promote the development between school and public library services. Teens vote for their favorites out of the top 20 at their high schools and libraries. We've listed the top 10.

See the entire list at the Georgia Peach Award website.

- 13 Reasons Why by Jay Asher
- Bad Monkeys by Matt Ruff
- Blood Brothers by S.A. Harazin
- City of Bones by Cassandra Clare
- Deadline by Chris Crutcher
- Generation Dead by Daniel Waters
- Getting the Girl by Susan Juby
- Graceline by Kristin Cashore
- The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

*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



## Notable Books

From several Regional Libraries, the books listed have been highlighted as most read. You might consider some of them on your reading list.

### FICTION

Changes: A Novel of the Dresden Files, by Jim Butcher  
The Help by Kathryn Stockett  
Caught by Harlan Coben  
The Convalescent by Jessica Anthony  
A Mercy: A Novel by Toni Morrison  
The Vagrants: A Novel by Yiyun Li

### NON-FICTION

The Good Soldiers by David Finkel  
Stitches: A Memoir by David Small  
Outcasts United by Warren St. John

## SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR YOUTHS AND TEENS

See the bulletin board and the Front Desk for a full description of the events & a 'take home' calendar.



### JUNE

**JUNE 3 - 1pm: Clay Pottery**, basic techniques  
**JUNE 7 - 5pm: Pinhole Photography & ANIME Movie**  
**JUNE 12 - 1pm: Stretching a Canvas and Stenciling**  
**JUNE 14 - 5pm: Game Night**, board games, video games  
**JUNE 19 - 1pm: Kaplan: Financial Aid 101**  
**JUNE 21 - 5pm: The Correct Way to Eat Sushi & ANIME Movie**, the do's and don't's (plus some sushi samples)  
**JUNE 26 - 1pm: What a Great IDEA**, an overview of Special Education for Parents and Families, plus how to make a referral, what to expect and IEP preparation.

### JULY

**July 1 - 1pm: Watercolor Workshop**  
**July 10 - 1pm: 'Peace, Love and Harmony and the IFSP/IEP? (PARENT TO PARENT'S)**  
**JULY 12 - 5pm: Lightbulb Terrarium craft project**  
**JULY 17 - 1pm: 'Sifting through your Parental Rights (PARENT TO PARENT'S)**  
**JULY 24 - 1pm: Glass Etching craft project**  
**JULY 26 - 5pm: Make-up Artist, workshop and ANIME movie (Pending)**  
**JULY 31 - 1pm: KAPLAN: Accepted: Getting Into your First Choice School**

# Our Children's Librarian is Back!



Our Children's Librarian has finally returned from Active Duty and serving our Country for more than a year in Afghanistan. We're so happy to have him back with us. He is busy getting the Children's Programs in place for the summer. We're sure you'll love what he and the rest of the Staff are going to present.

There are calendars at the Front Desk and on the Bulletin Board. Please take a copy as a reminder of what's coming up!!

## JUNE

- June 1, 10:30am - **Storytime**
- June 1, 1:00pm - **Summer Reading Program Kick-off, a Luau**
- June 3, 11:00am - **Pre-K Art Program, Clay Art**
- June 8, 10:30am - **Lapsit/Preschool Storytime**
- June 10, 1:00pm - **Elementary Aged Art Program, Clay Art**
- June 15, 10:30am - **Lapsit/Preschool Storytime**
- June 22, 10:30am - **Lapsit/Preschool Storytime**
- June 29, 10:30am - **Lapsit/Preschool Storytime**
- June 30, 1:00pm - **Exotic Animal Show, a variety of birds and lizards**

## JULY

- July 1, 11:00am - **Pre-K Art Program**
- July 6, 10:30am - **Lapsit/Preschool Storytime - Watercolor**
- July 12, 1:00pm - **Reptile Group** from the Reptile Guys
- July 13, 10:30am - **Lapsit/Preschool Storytime -**
- July 15, 1:00pm - **Elementary Aged Art Program, Watercolors**
- July 20, 10:30am - **Lapsit/Preschool Storytime**
- July 27, 10:30am - **Storytime**
- July 28, 4:00pm - **Summer Reading Program Finale, Ken Scott**



### Popular Juvenile Series

There are popular juvenile series of books that are always read. We are trying to replenish the supply:

- ◆ Goosebumps by R.L. Stine
- ◆ Guardians of Ga'hoole by Katheryn Lasky
- ◆ Secrets of Droon by Tony Abbott
- ◆ Animal Ark by Ben Baglio
- ◆ Magic Treehouse by Mary Pope Osborne
- ◆ and anything written by Erin Hunter

### **NOTEWORTHY.....**

**Do make note of the 2 meetings to be held by the Kaplan organization.**  
**6/19: Financial Aid, 101 (Youth/Teen program)**  
**7/31: Getting into your 1st Choice School (Youth/Teen program)**

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**PARENT TO PARENT'S will provide 3 sessions on Special Education and IFSP/IEP. See the calendar for dates.**

## Our Volunteers

Our Volunteers, all 40+ of them continue to put in more hours than any other library in Fulton County. This year - as with many years in the past - Ben Statham has been the top Volunteer in hours. THAT'S OUR BOY!!!

## Membership in FOTAL

Membership in FOTAL is easy. Just fill out a form, available from Barb Mitchell at any time, and pay \$5 (for individual). All money is used for the Library. You will get notification of sales and events being held and a bookmark to remind you. See our website: [FOTAL.org](http://FOTAL.org).

## 2010 FOTAL Board

President	Ben Statham
Vice-President	Kathleen Smith
Secretary/Treasurer	Linda Statham
Membership	Barbara Mitchell
Book Sales	Barbara Selwyn
Publicity	Susan Fornek, Gerrie Fornek
Books for Soldiers	Gerrie Fornek
Member at Large:	Jo Davisson Doug Davisson

## Book Sales

May 1	September 4
June 4	October 2
July 3	November 6
August 7	December 4

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

## Coming Events

### In Alpharetta

The 20th Annual TASTE OF ALPHARETTA will be held on May 13. from 5 to 10pm.

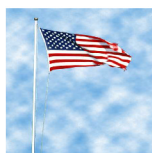
Isn't it a coincidence that this event is the same age as the Library!

- ✓ May 15, 7:15am, 13th Annual Mayor's Challenge Road Race
- ✓ June 5, Community Yard Sale
- ✓ August 7th and 8th, 57th Annual Old Soldier's Day Parade,

*Registration and Fees may be required. Visit their website for details and ALL THE EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR THE SUMMER. ([www.alpharetta.Ga.org](http://www.alpharetta.Ga.org) or call 678-297-6100).*

## Donations

We depend on your generous donations to supply us with books for our Sales. This is the lion-share of our income. However, please take time to go through the books you are dropping off. Lately we have received books no one can use. They are dirty, torn, some are mildewed and totally unusable, let alone sold. We must take these to recycling which means one of our Volunteers has to make the trek to the Center. Please... if you aren't keeping the books, think about their condition and if you'd pass these on to a FRIEND. If the answer is NO... then we don't want them either! Recycle them at your local Recycling Center. Thanks for your consideration.



## Books for Soldiers

We continue to send boxes of books, movies, games, phone cards, snacks and cards and letters to our dear men and women in all Military Services. The requests never stop. Through your contributions of books, movies and CDs, plus the money we collect at the monthly book sales we can do this. The books they have been requesting lately are history, both nonfiction and historical novels, self-improvement, current computer info and games. Always popular are mystery and spy novels along with classic books. Thank you if you've contributed to this cause - don't forget to write a note to one of them when you come by our BFS table at all the sales.