



# Friends of the Alpharetta Library

238 Canton St

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Quarterly Newsletter from the FOTAL Group.

Volume 2, Number 1 Summer and Fall, 2010

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

## 2010 Summer Programs made a Splash!!

### Letter from our President

Once again the summer programs were a huge success! Our Youth and Children's Librarians put together some fantastic programs and projects for all. Even parents enjoyed them.

TEENS made a terrarium in a lightbulb, got lessons in making and eating "Sushi" plus viewing Anime movies, and had a game night to name a few.

The YOUNGER SET had their calendar filled with story times, an EXOTIC animal program, a magician, a spelling bee and math challenge and movies.

New this year:

- ... the Bio-Bus - a free event sponsored and taught by Georgia State University.
- ... 'Parents to Parents', information for parents of children with special needs
- ... programs by Kaplan for parents and kids, explaining what to expect from college admissions policies and financial aids.



The Friends of the Alpharetta Library in addition to supplementing the inventory of the library, with your donated books, support many other literacy project. We continue to donate books to Goodwill Industries, to the Foster Children program in Roswell and to several elementary school libraries. This summer we supplied an entire donated school literacy program and hundreds of children's books to a disadvantaged community in eastern Kentucky. We provided scholarship funds for adult students who are working to obtain their GED. Those students are presently meeting at the former Milton High School building. Each month, their librarian comes to our sale and at no cost, selects books to help build their library. The Friends continue to send packages to military personnel through the Books for Soldiers program. FOTAL paid for Hal Griffith, an artist, to design and rebuild the rocket display in the children's area so the area would be safe. This project gave that area additional display space. We awarded scholarships to three students who will be entering college this Fall. We had an extremely busy summer!

Several of you have inquired about the status of the new proposed library. In Commissioner Lynne Riley's last report, the Board of Commissioners is continuing to work on approving a project manager for building of the new libraries and the renovation of several other libraries. John Szabo reported that there is approved money for preliminary planning for site investigation and that part of the plan is moving ahead but as far as we know no piece of property has been selected. It is always hopeful that someone might generously donate a piece of property. This would perhaps speed up our Alpharetta library project. The Friends thank you for your continued support and your generosity in the donations of your books for our monthly sales. We appreciate the support we receive from the community and the Mayor of Alpharetta as well as the Alpharetta City Council.

**Ben Statham**  
President

## 2010 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
Dawn Manhoff	Library Liaison

## 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

September 4

October 2

November 6

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\$

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

<http://shops.half/ebay.com/>  
alphalibrary

[www.amazon.com/shops/](http://www.amazon.com/shops/alphalibrary)  
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

## What FOTAL Board Members did this Summer!



.....Took a road trip to Brick Church, Tennessee with 22 boxes of children's books and beginning reading text books for the children and teachers in Appalachia. Most of the time, this is the first book a child has ever had.



.....Donated books to the Foster Care Support Foundation. The books are given to the Foster Parents and provide home libraries for the children. It lets all know that there are people out there who care. If you would like to make a donation, please go to their website at [www.fostercare.org](http://www.fostercare.org) or visit them at 115 Mansell Place in Roswell.



.....Shipped boxes of books, DVDs, snacks, computer games and sundries to our brave men and women serving all branches of the military. This summer we mailed mainly to Afghanistan.



## 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.

## Our Volunteers

All 40+ of our Volunteers continue to put in more hours than any other library in the Fulton County Library System. Our President, Ben Statham, was at the top of the list again this year. # 2, 3, AND 4 Volunteers were also FOTAL Board Members. WOW! They were all honored at this year's Volunteer's Awards Meeting





## Books for Soldiers

Over the summer we have sent 75 "care packages" world wide, but mainly to where the battles are being fought. Through generous donations from you, our patrons, and businesses in the community we were able to make many of our brave men and women feel like someone at home is thinking about them. Our soldiers sometimes send a letter thanking us for the packages. We'd like to share excerpts from 2 of them.

**From a Captain:** *"Thank you very much for the care packages. it means a lot to get anything from back home especially for the Soldiers. They look forward every day to coming by my office and seeing what is new. These packages have significantly raised their morale."* This man goes on to tell us a little about himself. He's from Texas, is married and has a cat. He is a West Point graduate! He described their life in Afghanistan versus Iraq, which is where he's been since '07. Lots of sand storms and HEAT. They live in tents. Food is pretty good.

**From a Staff Sergeant:** *"I and my soldiers really appreciated it (care package) and I am sure that all of the items will find a Soldier that would like it. ...I wanted to let you know how fortunate I felt to have received your package. I squealed like a child at each new layer that revealed something else that was inside... A lot of times it's just the thought that counts, the thought that someone else out there is thinking about us and our comfort and morale. It was like catching a tiny slice of America and have that moment frozen in time. It seems the only news we get is from the big news channels and there is always something negative on those stations. However, just reading your notes and good wishes made me smile."*

The 'NOTES' she mentions are those postcards and small note cards we ask you to write at the book sales. So, the cards do make a difference; it does matter.



## And the Scholarships go to...

For years FOTAL has given three scholarships to high school Seniors in our community. They are in honor of:

Dr. Robert Fulton, who was a Fulton County Commissioner and a huge supporter of public libraries. This years recipient is Emily Nicole Johnson, a 2010 graduate of Alpharetta High School.

Ralph Anderson, a leader in the Alpharetta business community and his wife the late Mary Anderson Stanley, a past president of FOTAL. There are 2 recipients: Selina Chan and Michael T. Smith from Milton High School. Selina will be attending Georgia Tech and Michael will be attending Brigham Young.



Our newest scholarship is the Ralph and Katie Johnson Scholarship. It is given in memory of Ralph and in honor of Katie. They both volunteered at our book sales for over 10 years, always working in the paperback section. Katie continues to volunteer. It is Katie and Ralph belief that you should never stop learning. For this reason their scholarship will be given to those working towards a GED or adults seeking higher education. A total of \$350.00 will be disbursed by Ms. Dennette Bender to people attending Lanier Technical School which is housed in the old Milton High School building. Ms. Bender, a teacher within the program, is helping us find students who are in need of financial aid to take the necessary tests for



go fish



Buy a book from Bob?



LUNCH ??

July 1st 'Make a Splash' Summer Program Kick-off and Book Sale



ALPHA FRIENDS



BOOKS...  
BOOKS....  
BOOKS.....

