

FOAL Focus

A Quarterly Newsletter from Friends of the Auberry Library

RETURN OF SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAMS



Students got to question the performers after the play

Since 2007 FOAL has conducted outreach programs with the Sierra Unified School District. Over the years we have provided presentations to classes in the Music, Drama, English, Art, Science, Spanish and Filmmaking departments at Sierra High School, Sierra Junior High, and Foothill Elementary. All of that came to a halt two years ago when the Covid pandemic hit. Thankfully we have reached a point where it is possible to once again start going into the classrooms at the schools with our outreach programs.

On April 21st, the Fresno City College Drama Department visited Sierra High and presented their short play, "No Easy Road To Freedom" for the Drama and English Lit students. The play was a series of vignettes portraying challenges faced by members of our society who face discrimination due to differences *(cont'd on p.2)*

FOAL GOALS FOR 2022

The FOAL Board of Directors recently reviewed and updated plans and budget for the current year, as is our practice after closing out the previous calendar year. We agreed to an ambitious plan, largely resuming our regular programs, but scheduling month to month as we see how things go with Covid. Along with resuming regular concerts, we are planning for our benefit concert in the fall as our large annual fund-raiser. You may notice that FOAL does not host the Harvest Festival any more. A new team took on this event last fall, which seemed to be very successful in its new form. FOAL does sponsor a booth for the Auberry Library at the festival. A new item that we tried last year and will continue is the shred event. This is a community service event and was very well received. As always, we will send out e-mail notices, post in the newspapers and on Facebook to help spread the word prior to these events.

FOAL 2022:

- *Concerts: 3 indoor, 4 outdoor*
- *Benefit Concert in September*
- *Music Outreach 7-12 Grade: 5 sessions*
- *Anne Neal Speaker Series: 4-5 guests*
- *Theater Presentations: 2-3 programs*
- *Tours: San Joaquin River Trip*
- *Teen tours and scholarship*
- *Book Sales: Spring, Summer and Holiday*
- *Bake Sales: Spring and Fall*
- *Shred Event: One in May*
- *First Grade Book Gifts*
- *Astronomy: Postponed*
- *Art Outreach: Resume Fall 2022*
- *Update Library Sign*
- *Sohm Garden Bench*
- *Annual Public Meeting & Ice Cream Social*
- *Volunteer Luncheon*

CHAT FROM THE CHAIR



Jamelie Taylor, Chair

As the weather warms and days lengthen the FOAL board would like to invite all of our 'friends' as well as those who are not officially members to join us for concerts and lectures again. Our first indoor

gathering of the season was a theater production by Fresno City College students that was well-attended on a rainy Thursday. We'll soon have an indoor concert, a book sale, a Saturday shredding event and an outdoor concert. Come say hello to all the friends you haven't seen much of recently.

If you come to the book sale you will learn that FOAL is moving. The office will be in the same building next to the library, but two doors down. The space is smaller so more affordable and the new landlord is providing a storage area that will be very usable. Our May

book sale will take place in the new space while we are in the moving process. When you come to book shop you will be helping us lighten our need for storage.

We are looking at this move as a great opportunity for organization. The process is helping us evaluate what we need in the office and what we need in the library for programs. Initially we sometimes resist change, but in the long run I think this will be a positive step for FOAL.

FOAL's mission is to

- *Support the Auberry Branch Library as it strives to encourage literacy and lifelong learning*
- *Provide a vibrant cultural gathering place;*
- *Enhance the Library's resources and services;*
- *Increase community access to information and knowledge.*

SCHOOL OUTREACH (CONT'D FROM P1)

such as nationality, skin color, and gender. After the play, there was a question and answer discussion. The questions ranged from tips on memorizing lines and mastering accents, to managing college life and extracurricular activities. That evening, the actors presented their play at the library to a group of 21 guests. This session was also followed by a lively Q&A, and was also very well received.

The next outreach will be Friday, April 29th, when the Tower Quartet, a four piece classical string chamber ensemble, will visit the music students from both Sierra High and Junior High Schools for an educational workshop. The ensemble will then perform at the Auberry Library in the evening for the community at large.

FOAL is committed to increasing the community's access to information and knowledge and that commitment reaches out

beyond the walls of the Auberry Library. Our outreach programs are paid for by FOAL and then offered to the schools for free. Just one of the many ways we strive to make our community a wonderful place to call home.



Actors portray an immigrant's vision of the Statue of Liberty upon arrival to America

QUARTET TO PLAY APRIL 29



On Friday, April 29 from 7:30-9:00 p.m. FOAL will celebrate the return of their free monthly concert series with an evening of classical string chamber music featuring The Tower Quartet.

The Tower Quartet is a group of extremely talented young musicians who have gained much recognition for their musicianship as well as their love for both traditional and unusual musical pieces for the concert performances. Outside their roles with the Tower Quartet they all perform with multiple symphonies, chamber groups, opera and theater companies, and more throughout the valley and as far away as Texas and Puerto Rico. They also teach music at various High Schools and Colleges as well as privately.

Come join us for what promises to be an outstanding evening of wonderful music. You can preview their work at these links: [Por Una Cabeza](#) , [Mozart String Quartet No 21, K 575 \(1st movement\)](#) , [Over the Rainbow](#)

SIT A SPELL

There's a new bench in the Sohm Garden adjacent to the Auberry library. It's dedicated to the Leach family, Dale, Bev and Loren, who have all been instrumental in the success of the community based organization known as the Friends of the Auberry Library (FOAL).

In 1991 FOAL was formed by a group of enthusiastic library volunteers who raised small amounts through book and bake sales. In 1996 when Union Bank left Auberry, the present library building was donated to the Foundation for Regional Cooperation through the hard work of some powerful local women, Barbara Ferguson and Jean Saffell, as well as other library supporters. In October of that year, the Fresno County Library entered into a long term, no-cost lease with the Foundation for use of the building as the local library branch and a community meeting place. That ownership was soon transferred to FOAL.

In 2005 the FOAL board, led by Nancy Hunter, formed a 501(c)(3) non-profit in order to further its literacy goals through the library and accept tax-deductible donations to fund programs. Loren Leach became FOAL's director and through his dad Dale was connected to Floyd Sohm, a Loper Valley rancher, and his wife Ruth, a retired elementary teacher. They generously provided FOAL with its

first large donations, allowing the organization to expand programming in the community through LIFT tutors as well as music, theater and lecture events.

For the past seventeen years FOAL has been able to grow through fund-raising, investment, donations and local grant providers. The generosity of the Leach family and the untiring work of Loren Leach as director have sustained the organization. Next time you visit the library, take time to sit a spell in the Sohm Garden and reflect on the space FOAL provides as a community center.

Jamelie Taylor



Bev Leach enjoys the new spot in Sohm Garden

LIBRARY LINK: AUBERRY BRANCH UPDATE

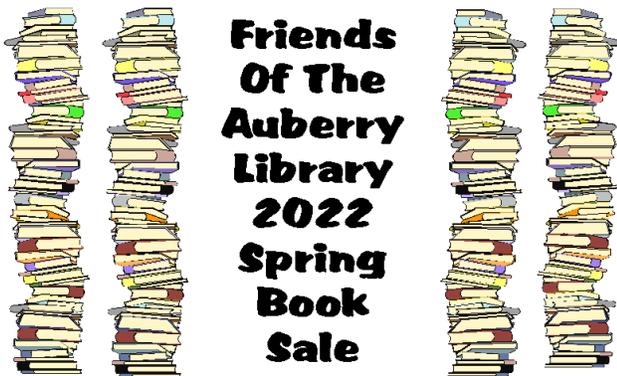
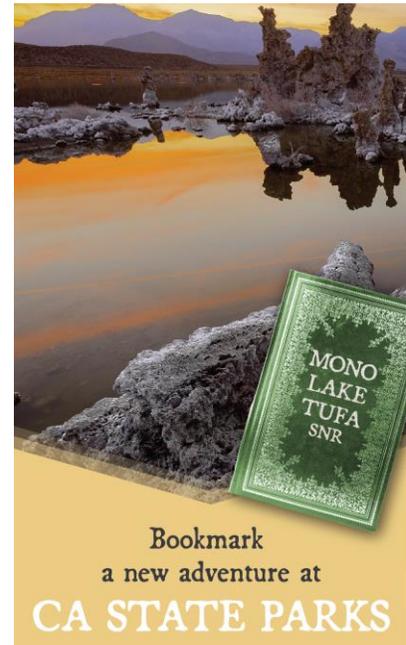
In partnership with the First Partner's Office and the California State Library, the Fresno County Public Library (and most public library systems throughout the state) will soon be offering California State Park Passes for library borrowers to check-out at their local library. These passes will be available to check-out and for borrowers to place a hold on, just as you would when requesting a book. For CA State Park Passes that are not requested, these will be available as a first come, first serve at the branch.

In order to check-out a CA State Park Pass, borrowers will need an active FCPL library card. The passes will be free to borrowers to check-out for a three-week period. Upon their due date, they will need to be returned to the library. The passes are not eligible for renewal as other library materials. Each CA State Park Pass is valid for entry of one passenger vehicle with capacity of nine people or less, or one highway licensed motorcycle.

There are over 200 participating California state park units. The pass will not be honored at state park units that are operated by federal or local government and private agencies or concessionaires. The pass is also not valid for per-person entry or tour fees, camping, special events, additional/extra vehicle fees, sanitation or supplemental fees.

For a full list of where the CA State Park Pass is valid, please visit: <https://www.parks.ca.gov/ParkIndex>

- Submitted by Jamie Kurumaji, FCPL



Friends Of The Auberry Library 2022 Spring Book Sale

Thursday, May 12 12-6
Friday, May 13 12-6
Saturday, May 14 12-5

Great Prices!
All books, CDs & DVDs 2 for \$1
Children's Books 4 for \$1
Small "Pocket" Paper backs 10 for \$1



**At The Friends of the Auberry Library office
in Oakview Terrace next door to the library**

SHRED EVENT MAY 21ST

On Saturday, May 21st Friends of the Auberry Library will hold their second annual Free Paper Document Shredding Event at the Auberry Library. Bring your documents to the library between 10 a.m. and noon where volunteers will help unload them from your vehicle then you can watch them get shredded there on site.

FOAL uses Clovis based Discount Shred whose state of the art mobile shredding trucks can easily shred staples, paper clips, and binder clips. However, you do need to remove 3 ring binders and hanging file folders.

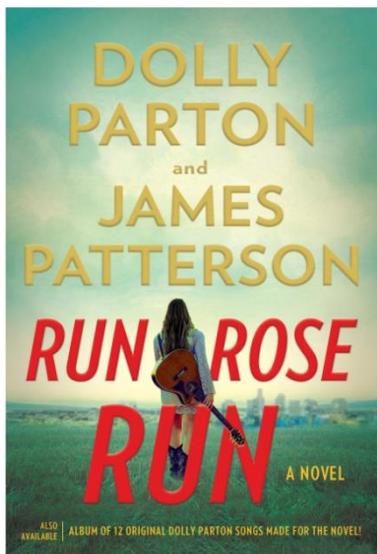
This event is one more way that FOAL works to enhance the Auberry Library's resources and services here in our community. This is a free service. Donations happily accepted.

For more information contact the Friends of the Auberry Library at foalorg@gmail.com or call 779-3625

Reviewer: Jamelie Taylor

Genre: Fiction

Run Rose Run by Dolly Parton & James Patterson (2022)



I am not usually a fan of country music, but connect it to a novel with a bit of mystery, romance and well-drawn characters—I’m all in. One of the authors, James Patterson, surprised the other, Dolly Parton, by inviting her to write a book with him because he thought “he had a good idea”. He wrote the words detailing the story of a young songwriter trying to make a start in Nashville while she compiled lyrics to mirror those struggles. The 12 songs compose Dolly’s latest album release by the same name, Run Rose Run, her 48th.

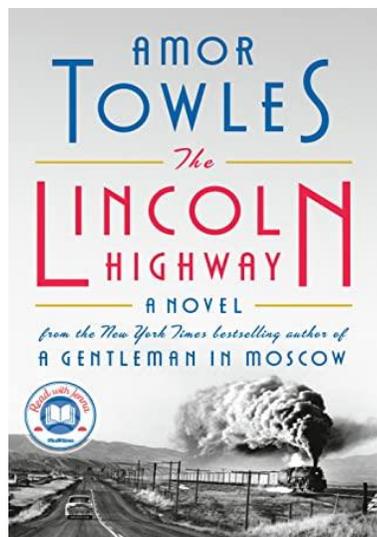
The book spins the tale of talented young AnnieLee who hopes her forceful personality (described by the song ‘Firecracker’) and compelling lyrics will allow her to break into the country-music world. She refuses to give up her dream in spite of her own complicated history and Nashville’s obstacles so she writes the song, ‘Woman Up (and Take it Like a Man)’. These are just two of the songs AnnieLee writes along her journey

As the story unfolds the dreams and disappointments of other musicians and managers she meets wrap around her. The authors describe AnnieLee’s struggles much like their own and attempt to show readers that with perseverance one can hope to make dreams come true. When you read this novel, be sure to look over the lyrics of the twelve songs in the appendix.

Reviewer: Anne Neal

Genre: Fiction

The Lincoln Highway: A novel by Amor Tolles (2021)



Emmett and Billy Watson set out off with a plan to follow the Lincoln Highway from New York City to San Francisco in search of their long-lost mother. Armed with her postcards mailed along the route of the Highway, they are convinced they will find her on July 4th, her favorite holiday.

A more endearing cast of characters would be hard to find, from precocious Billy to ingenuous Emmett. They encounter a range of people who help or hinder them in their progress.

This novel is by the author of “A Gentleman in Moscow” and is as wide-ranging in scope and as entertaining.

GIFTS HONOR MARY TAYLOR AND LOTUS VANSCIVER

Sadly this year has seen the passing of two long time FOAL supporters, Mary Taylor and Lotus VanSciver. The families of both of these women requested that FOAL be one of the beneficiaries of memorial donations. To date FOAL has received \$1,300 which has been added to the program funding that they both enjoyed. We wish to thank the people who have made donations in honor of the memory of these two outstanding women in our community. Their presence at our programs and their loyal support will be greatly missed.

SPRING CALENDAR

Friday April 29th, **Student Outreach.** Sierra Junior/Senior High School.

Friday April 29th, **Concert.** 7:30 – 9 pm, Auberry Library Main Room. The Tower Quartet.

Thurs May 12 – Sat May 14, **Book Sale.** Noon – 6 Thurs & Fri, Noon-5 Sat. FOAL Office.

Saturday May 21st, **Community Shred Event.** 10am – Noon, Auberry Library parking lot.

Saturday May 21st, **Concert.** 7:30-9pm, Sohm Garden. Lance Canales and the Flood

Saturday, June 4, **Concert.** 7:30-9:00 p.m. Sohm Garden. Square One – Not Just Blues!

ABOUT US

Friends of the Auberry Library (FOAL)

A registered non-profit since 2005

Board of Directors

Jamelie Taylor, Chair

Sean Marjala, Vice Chair

Anne Neal, Secretary

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Lorraine Doyle

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Library Liaison

Jamie Kurumaji

Program Director

Loren Leach

FOAL Focus Newsletter

Connie Schlaefer, Editor

The Friends of the Auberry Library would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support:

The AHS Foundation

The Rotary Club of Auberry Intermountain

Valley Iron Inc.

Bonner Family Foundation

We're on the Web!

<http://www.friendsofauberrylibrary.org/>

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