

FOAL Focus

A Quarterly Newsletter from Friends of the Auberry Library

SHARING SUMMER READING GIFTS WITH 1ST GRADE



President Jamelie Taylor, Fresno library rep Anna Nascimento and Exec Director Loren Leach visit first grade

As summer beckoned, FOAL leadership joined with Fresno County Library to provide a personal gift to local first graders. Each student received their own copy of *Pete the Cat: Robo-Pete* by James Dean. Along with the book, the students received a list of summer library activities, and an application for their own library card. The first grade gift is an annual

program sponsored through FOAL, focused on encouraging reading through the summer break, during a critical time in early literacy. A team of FOAL and Library representatives visited Foothill Elementary and Pine Ridge to personally deliver the books, and the message that "reading is FUN". The excited students certainly seemed to agree.

Inside this issue:

Grizzlies Game	2
100th Concert	3
Annual Meeting	4
Myles Concert	4

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.*

2 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jamelie Taylor

It's that time of year again— outdoor concerts and astronomy nights are happening on the library green in the Sohm Garden. We are so fortunate to have this outdoor venue to come together as a community for

fellowship as well as entertainment and star study.

I remember as a child having similar evening experiences at the Russian River. We were part of a small community of cabin owners, Summer Home Park, who escaped the heat of summer to enjoy life at the river. Once a week my siblings and I attended an outdoor movie on the stage in the "center" where we all sat on rickety benches to gaze at a big screen set up against the wall. For all of us the social time was as enjoyable as the movie

itself. We would walk home after dark feeling satisfied because we were part of something bigger than our family.

That's the feeling we hope you gain from a FOAL event. You are essential to this community benefit organization because you believe in its mission—to make the library a vibrant gathering place that encourages literacy of all kinds and lifelong learning. Please bring your friends and family to an evening get together and share in something grand!

FOALIES ATTEND 7-6 GRIZZLY COMEBACK WIN

WELCOME TO CHUKCHANSI PARK													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	R	H	E
VISITORS	3	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	6	8	2
GRIZZLIES	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	7	9	0

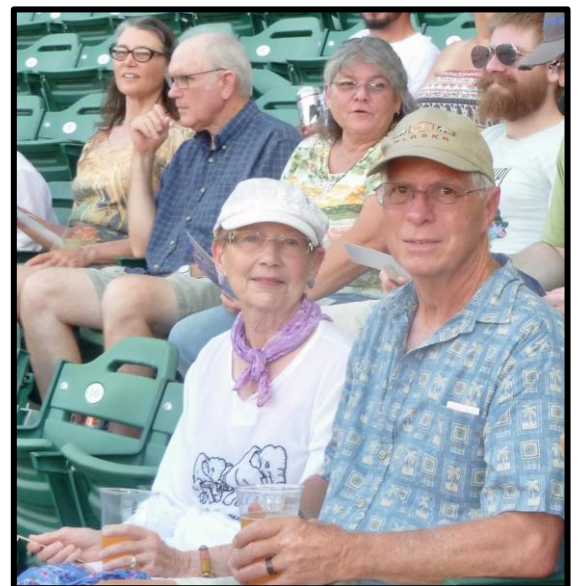
The scoreboard tells the story of the hard fought game

Friday, June 23, was a FOAL fundraiser night at Chukchansi Park, Fresno. The hometown Grizzlies (Houston Astros AAA team) donated back \$7.00 of every \$17.00 ticket sold by FOAL. The FOAL delegation took advantage of the offer by purchasing 90 tickets and forming a cheering section on the second deck behind home plate of Grizzly Stadium where the bears hosted the Sacramento River Cats (S.F. Giants AAA team) in the second of a three game series. After losing the series opener 9-3, the Grizzlies evened the series 7-6, in a seesaw battle with a thrilling bottom of the ninth finale.

The Grizzlies quickly dug themselves a three run hole in the first inning as pitcher Mike Houschild gave up two walks, a single and a double. Fresno responded in the third with three of their own to tie. The Cats added one in the fifth inning and two more in the seventh, leaving Fresno down 6-4 at stretch time. Fresno center fielder Derek Fisher and third baseman Colin Moran teamed up to score a run in the eighth and the Grizzlies went into the final inning a single run

behind. In the bottom of the ninth with the bases loaded and one out, Fisher struck out, leaving the Grizzlies on game's edge. With two out, Moran drew a walk to tie the game. Then right fielder Teoscar Hernandez promptly stroked a base hit to cap it for the Grizzlies 7-6.

A cheering Fresno crowd, sparse due to the hot weather, sat back to enjoy the postgame fireworks. The Grizzlies' record in the Pacific Northern division of the Pacific Coast League after the game was 36-38. They are currently third of four teams in their division, behind Reno and Tacoma. Check out the FOAL video at [7th inning stretch](#)



The Howards enjoying the game with the FOAL crowd

FOAL BOARD GOVERNANCE TRAINING

During four weeks in May and one in June, several members of the FOAL board had an opportunity to attend training sessions with Don Simmons, a Humanics professor at Fresno State. The trainings were held at the Central Valley Community Foundation and were attended by a variety of non-profits from all over the local area. One of the first lessons conveyed was to use the term Community Benefit Organizations or CBOs rather than non-profits in order to promote the aspirations of these groups and better describe the relationship to the community they serve.

In each session Dr. Simmons presented a topic within the realm of what board members should know. He began with the ten responsibilities of a board member followed by legal information, financial reports, fundraising and finally strategic planning. Although these topics may sound dry and dull, Dr. Simmons made each presentation lively, meaningful and fun. Each of the attendees took away not only information about how to improve the organization but also enthusiasm to take a fresh look at FOAL for

improvement. According to President Jamelie Taylor, "We are looking forward to sharing the training essentials with the rest of the board."

In addition to the training, FOAL made a wonderful connection with the Humanics department at Fresno State. That program prepares leaders for service to humanity and we hope to continue a relationship with the department by creating internship opportunities for students to help FOAL grow.

INITIATIVES FOR 2017/18

In conjunction with the board training, several focus areas were highlighted for the upcoming year and underscored at the Annual Members Meeting.:

- Increase attendance at free events
- More participation from younger families
- Fundraising
- Match volunteer interests & skills to tasks

Look for these themes to influence the FOAL agenda for this year, and if any members have thoughts on how to achieve these goals, please share!

FOAL Hosts 100TH FREE CONCERT



In honor of FOAL's 100th free concert, FOAL celebrated by serving a decorated cake to the attendees.

The community was treated to a concert on May 19 featuring French-English composer and guitarist Claude Bourbon. Bourbon's unique sound combined classical and blues guitar with Spanish, Middle Eastern, and Russian styling. His original songs, along with renditions of familiar tunes, thrilled the audience. Bourbon had driven over from Monterey to include Auberry in his 15,000 mile tour of the United States.



Claude Bourbon jazzed up Auberry with his blues voice and guitar

FOAL VOLUNTEER PICNIC AND ANNUAL MEETING



FOAL board and volunteers enjoyed a lunch together

Friends of the Auberry Library volunteers gathered at the Auberry Library on Sunday, June 25 to socialize and dine on sandwiches and assorted salads provided by FOAL leadership in

appreciation for the volunteers' service to the local nonprofit organization. FOAL Director Loren Leach called for the annual event to move indoors this year due to high outdoor temperature.

FOAL leadership also took the opportunity to hold their annual members' meeting. Treasurer Connie Schlaefter outlined the organization's progress and goals for the year in light of FOAL's stated mission. Board member Beth Carr led a group discussion and recorded the group's input regarding FOAL's strengths, as well as areas of opportunity for improvement. The board of directors also presented the membership votes approving the continuation of current board members, and ratifying board actions taken during the 2016/17 fiscal year. Finally, the group happily adjourned for ice cream and Stan Neal's famous hot fudge sauce.

BLUES MASTER A.C. MYLES ASTOUNDS SOHM GARDEN

On Thursday evening, June 22, FOAL treated locals to the sounds of accomplished blues musician A.C. Myles, a Central California born and bred talent who now riffs on the world stage. A.C. wasted no time serving up an assortment of blues and rock melodies from the band's three albums: *Reconsider Me* (2014); *Rush to Red* (2015); and *With These Blues* (2017).

A.C. flawlessly dished out the lead vocals and lead guitar work while bassist Phil Santillan and drummer Sky Garcia skillfully rounded out the band. In addition to their own covers of many blues artists in various styles, the band added a special tribute to recently deceased southern rock legend Gregg Allman by performing Gregg's signature song, *Midnight Rider*. Near the end of its first set, the group showed its versatility with a reverb-drenched instrumental surf medley.

A local crowd of about 45 people braved the 95 degree heat to attend the event at Sohm Garden, next to the Auberry Library. FOAL provided cold beer (\$4) and popcorn (\$1) and Jocelyn Paquette won the 50/50 raffle. FOAL director Loren Leach noted of A.C. "He's so polished for his young age." Audience participant Eric Santillan observed, "He really kicked it." Video: [Myles](#)

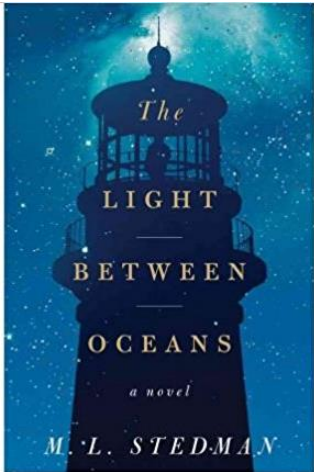


Myles on the lead guitar performs in the summer heat

Reviewer: Rick Sexty

Genre: Historical Fiction

The Light Between Oceans by M. L. Stedman (2012)



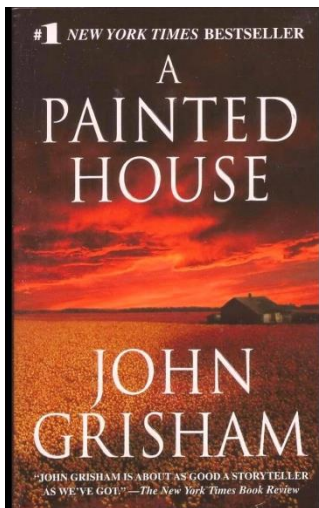
In her debut novel M. L. Stedman skillfully weaves a fascinating plot, impeccable style and mythological symbolism. Tom Sherbourne, free from his post in The Great War arrives at Partageuse, a fictional town on Australia's rugged southwestern coast. He chooses the vibrant Isabel as his wife and together they boldly face a life together on the remote, desolate Janus Island, where Tom has assumed the responsibility of lighthouse keeper. Their childless marriage and a perfect storm of circumstances predispose the couple to make a disastrous decision that sets the tumultuous course of the novel.

Lucy, the child character at the center of the novel's action, is indeed born under the ambivalence of Janus, the Roman two-faced household god of the threshold who faces opposite directions simultaneously. Lucy must earn her coming of age through a perilous parental tug of war. In the end, Stedman leaves us with an extremely satisfying read that deftly explores the ambiguity of borders and the bonds and risks that come with allegiance.

Reviewer: Mark Schlaefter

Genre: Fiction, Thriller

A Painted House by John Grisham (2001)

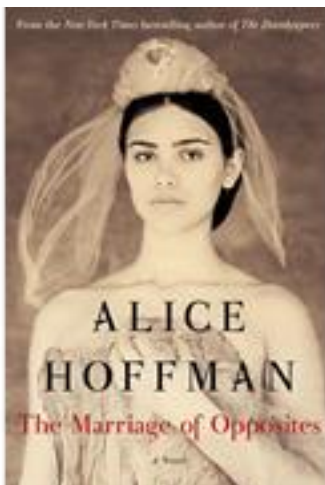


Cotton picking time in the Arkansas Delta is a time of blistered fingers and 18 hour work days for all generations in 1952. Luke Chandler is the 7 year old son of a cotton farmer and is no stranger to the fields or the migrant workers that come every year to pick the bolls. This year however, two very dangerous men come to pick the cotton and it becomes a summer that Luke and his family will not easily forget. Reminiscent of Huckleberry Finn, although with a deeper moral background, Luke learns secrets that summer that very few 7 year old boys should ever learn. Weather, baseball games, and a beautiful young woman all threaten to upend young Luke's summer and Tom Sawyer starts to paint the Chandler's bare wood clapboard farmhouse. OK, that last part is not quite true. But someone secretly starts to paint the family house that has not seen paint since it was built. All in all, totally different from a normal Grisham thriller-- a classic story reminding me of The Grapes of Wrath and To Kill a Mockingbird.

Reviewer: Anne Neal

Genre: Historical Fiction

The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman (2015)



Growing up on the idyllic Caribbean island of St. Thomas in the early 1800's, Rachel dreams of life in Paris. Her family is part of a small community of Jews who escaped the Spanish Inquisition. Ironically, this island paradise is haunted by shadows of slavery and racism. And Rachel's community, which escaped persecution, has created its own shackles of strict religious conformity and oppression of women. Rachel's best friend is Jestine, the child of the household African cook. Their lives intertwine in myriad ways.

Hoffman has created a romantic tale based on the history of the artist Camille Pissaro who became a leader of French Impressionism. This novel is full of magic, drama, and lush settings. A gorgeous summer read.

SUMMER CALENDAR



Every Tuesday, Chess Club, All ages/abilities, Auberry Library, 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Tuesday, July 11, Teen Tour-- Ideaworks, 8 am to 2 pm

Tues - Thurs, July 17-19, Summer Book Sale, FOAL Office, 2-7 pm each day

Thursday, July 20, Teen Tour--The Tech Museum of Innovation, 8 am – 7 pm

Saturday, July 22, Concert--Glen Delpit & the Subterraneans, 7-9 pm

Sunday, July 23, Tour--Stageworks Fresno's *The Full Monty*, 2-4:30 pm

Monday, July 24, Astronomy Night, Sohm Garden, 8:30 - 10 p.m.

Thursday, July 27, Teen Tour--Columbia State Historic Park, 8 am – 7 pm

Thursday, August 17, Concert. Rockabilly band Motel Drive , 7-9 p.m.

Saturday, September 16, FOAL benefit concert. Social hour 6-7 p.m.

Concert. Bootstrap Circus and the Mana Fire Dancers. Food for sale, 50/50 raffle. (more details to come) 7-9 p.m

Wednesday, September 27, Astronomy: Milky Way, Aquarius, 8-9:30 pm

ABOUT Us

Friends of the Auberry Library (FOAL)

A registered non-profit since 2005

Board of Directors

Jamelie Taylor, Chair
Charlotte Gordon, Vice Chair
Amy Poore, Secretary
Connie Schlaefer, Treasurer
Beth Linder Carr
Lorraine Doyle
Sean Marjala
Anne Neal

Library Liaison

Raelene Fleming

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 Bertha & John Garabedian Charitable Foundation
- The Downing Planetarium
- The Rotary Club of Auberry Intermountain
- Southern California Edison

P.O. Box 157, Auberry, CA 93602
33049 Auberry Rd, Auberry, California

Phone: (559) 779-3625

E-mail: foalorg@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

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

Follow Us on Facebook

facebook

for all the latest!