

# FOAL Focus

A Quarterly Newsletter from Friends of the Auberry Library

## FOAL Hosts Second Annual Benefit Concert



Contreras performing with the Fire Dancers was a thrilling and dramatic combination

Sunday, September 30, was the date Friends of the Auberry Library (FOAL) designated to hold its second annual benefit concert. Over the years FOAL has treated the community to 112 free concerts, but this one, the organization's second benefit concert, was set to raise funds for the programs it sponsors. FOAL is a 501(c)3 tax deductible community benefit organization which funds, in addition to free local concerts: theater programs, the Anne Neal Guest Speaker Series, teen programs, local tours for families, outreach programs for Sierra Unified schools, the first grade gift book program, the chess program and support for the Fresno County Library's Summer Reading Program.

The headliner for the event, Patrick Contreras (El Violin), is no stranger to the foothill community and has many fans here. At 6:00 pm, he and his band quickly got to work serving up some of their popular hits with the expertise and passion for which they are known. Some crowd favorites included; "Mojave," "Sleepwalk," "Orange Blossom Special," "Purple Haze," and "Kashmir."

After the sunshine faded into darkness, the Mana Fire Dancers added their dazzling and rhythmic pyrotechnics to enhance the musical experience. Over 150 locals and Valley dwellers brought their chairs and blankets to Sohm Garden and took advantage of the event in the cool of an autumn evening.

Tickets for the event were \$10 and children under 10 yrs. were free. Several locals stepped forward to sponsor the event including: Gold sponsors (\$500), Big Sandy Rancheria, and Regency Investment Advisors; Silver sponsors (\$250), Mountain Flame Propane, Dave's Auto, On the Mark Remodeling, and Anne and Stan Neal; Bronze sponsors (\$100), Intermountain Nursery, RE/MAX Gold Real Estate, Ponderosa Market, Jeff Covey CPA, Joan & Bill Hunter Music Farm, Loren Leach, K. Vomvolakis, Laurel Doud and Tom Stern, and Michael and Beth Carr. Mr. Contreras and the band donated half of their CD sales proceeds to FOAL (\$103). The Leach Family Trust sponsored the band and the fire dancers (\$1,100). Sue Sutton won the 50/50 raffle,

Continued on p. 7

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Jamelie Taylor

The leaves are starting to turn, the nights are getting longer and soon our temperatures will begin to climb down. FOAL's last outdoor concert of the season was the Benefit Concert on September 30, so now the music will move into the library. I can't wait for my favorite season to get into full gear--when you have to grab a

sweater and get dinner on before dark.

The evening of the Patrick Contreras concert was a successful gathering of many 'friends' representative of our community. Followers of the musicians mixed with locals to create an enthusiasm for the "Violin on Fire" and "El Violin" pieces played. Seniors mixed with pierced and tattooed youth while many got on their feet to dance to the music. Many enjoyed a beer or glass of wine with their taco or tamale followed by a delicious frozen pop from Ooh-de-Lolli.

This reflects FOAL's mission to provide a vibrant cultural gathering place and encourage lifelong learning along with literacy. I'm sure everyone in attendance felt the vibrance of that gathering and I know I learned something about how a violin can reflect and enhance many different musical styles and feelings. FOAL will continue to schedule opportunities for our community to come together, access information and learn. Thank you for supporting our goals.

### **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.*

## HARVEST ARTS FESTIVAL 2018

Vendor maps were mailed last week for more than 70 booth spaces for this year's Harvest Arts Festival on October 13 & 14 at Sierra High School's softball field and the Eastern Fresno County Historical Society Museum grounds. For the second year this annual event--#26 for our community--will take place where parking and music are free, grass is green underfoot, and the festival has lots of room to grow.

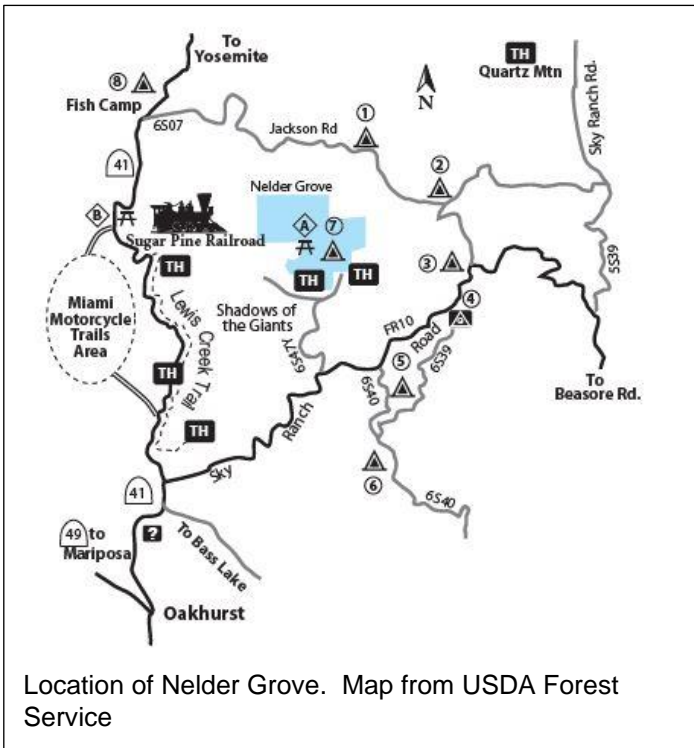
Festival organizers listened to feedback from last year's event and have made significant changes. There are six food booths this year, vendor booths are arranged in rows for easier visiting, and the famous FOAL baked goods booth is located with the artist vendors. In addition, this year there will be Bubletopia for kids from 1-3 both days, yoga for kids, and the well-known kids' area for crafts along with some live animals to visit. The Spoken Word stage will feature the works of local writers and Fresno County Library story time as well as a writers' workshop hosted by Pam Smedley.

Come early and plan to spend the day or both days meandering among the booths, visiting friends, enjoying good food and listening to quality music. What a great way to spend a lovely October weekend! See you at the festival!

*Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced.*

*Leo Tolstoy*

## ANNE NEAL SPEAKER SERIES: NELDER GROVE



Location of Nelder Grove. Map from USDA Forest Service

On Tuesday evening September 25, the community was invited to the Auberry Library for a slide talk on Nelder Grove. Brenda Negley is a docent for Nelder Grove which is a sister to Yosemite National Park's Wawona giant Sequoias just 6 air miles away. Brenda spent childhood summers camping in Nelder Grove with her grandparents who were the docents for many years. Her grandfather, often accompanied by Brenda, explored every niche of this isolated forest. He counted the rings on every fallen tree, measured them, and cataloged the growth habits. The U.S. Forest service even named one of the Sequoias for her grandparents.

In the library presentation, Brenda showed pictures of the devastation wrought by recent fires, especially the Railroad Fire in 2017. Because of overgrown brush, the fire burned so hot that several of the ancient, giant trees were incinerated. She also told about the logging history of the area.

Nelder Grove is located in Madera County in the Sierra National Forest. Its campground is free to use.



Comedian Jaguar Bennett

FOAL brings two new free theatrical shows to the Auberry Library in November. Both performers will give instructional outreach visits to the SHS Drama department as well.

On Friday, November 2, at 8:00 p.m., FOAL presents an evening of thought-provoking comedy with Jaguar Bennett and his one man show – Mansplaining. #MeToo meets the male psyche in a stand-up comedy show that will make you laugh and think. What really goes on in men's minds? Comedian Jaguar Bennett spills the secrets in a hilarious expose that may even make you like men again. Visit [here](#) for a funny and insightful interview with Jaguar as he talks about his show – Mansplaining. (link is also on FOAL website's calendar page)

On Friday, November 30, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. FOAL presents - Illusionist Bryan Patrick, The Magician So Amazing, He Amazes Himself!! Creating a magic show for audiences of all ages, Bryan has prepared a night full of magic, laughs, fun and amazement with plenty of crowd participation. You won't want to miss it!



The amazing magician Bryan Patrick

## UPCOMING THEATER PROGRAMS

## ART OUTREACH AT SIERRA HIGH



Illustrator Doug Hansen sharing work with SHS students

On Friday, September 28, Doug Hansen visited two art classes at Sierra High School funded by a generous grant from the Bonner Family Foundation. After describing his career as a working artist from free-lance to Fresno Bee to CSUF teaching illustration, Hansen showed the class

both work by his college students and then his own work from published books.

His slide show presentation for the first hour showed various student assignments which included cartoon story boards, product advertisements and illustration possibilities for books, movies or CD covers. It also included some examples of student work after graduation as working illustrators.

During the second hour Hansen shared his work for the children's books, *Mother Goose in California*, *Aesop in California* and *California the Magic Island*. He spoke about the extensive research incorporated into each drawing as well as demonstrated with photos how each drawing developed from pencil to ink and color in the studio.

Students were attentive and asked a few questions. The audience included Kay Cummings Bonner and a friend. The next Art Outreach presenter will be Susanne French, a ceramics professor from Merced, who will demonstrate with clay in the ceramics department at SHS.

## ASTRONOMY PROGRAM REVIEW

FOAL's Astronomy Nights Program wrapped up its 7<sup>th</sup> season in September. This very popular program led by local amateur Astronomer Carl Dotts and assisted by fellow amateur Astronomer Mitch Smith has become a favorite with local star gazers both young and old.

This year's season was sponsored by Sierra Remote Observatories, a local scientific research facility located near Meadow Lakes - <https://www.sierra-remote.com/> FOAL greatly appreciates their generosity in sponsoring this program.

During the last 5 months over two hundred people have participated in this season's program.

New for this year will be a telescope triage program (on a date still to be determined) where people can bring in their telescopes for adjustments, assessments and recommended repairs including what parts might be needed and where to find them. This program will be advertised on our website, Facebook page etc.



Astronomy program attendee and telescope-naming contest winner Elodie, with her namesake telescope

## HARVEST FESTIVAL SCHEDULE REMINDER



**26<sup>th</sup> Annual Intermountain Harvest Arts Festival**  
underwritten by Friends of the Auberry Library (FOAL)  
at SHS and EFC Historical Society Museum

**Music Schedule** - Main stage at the Museum

### Saturday, Oct 13

10-11am	Sierra High Jazz Band & Mountain Choral Company
11:15am-12:15pm	The Gilly Girls - Bluegrass/String Band
12:30-1:30pm	Good Medicine - Americana/Rock and Roll
1:45-3:15pm	Glen Delpit & the Subterraneans - Bluesy roots rock
3:30-5:00pm	AC Myles - Blues Band



### Sunday, Oct 14

10-11am	Emerald Duo - Classical music
11:15am-12:15pm	Dean MacDonald - Singer/Songwriter
12:30 - 1:30pm	Kevin Hill Jazz Quartet - Jazz Band
1:45- 2:45pm	Motel Drive - Rock and Roll
3:00-4pm	Lonesome Jem & the Lunatics - Zydecco band



**Kern Family Farm Kids' Booth • Cat Krosschell & her Birds of Prey**  
**Bubbletopia • Performing Arts Stage**

**Free Parking, Large Venue, Great Artists, Activities & So Much Fun!**

[Like Us on Facebook - 26th Annual Intermountain Harvest Arts Festival](#)



## COULD YOU BE A TOMBSTONE TOURIST?

On Tuesday, November 13, local author and historian Sharon Giacomazzi will join the Anne Neal Speaker Series with a most unusual topic - The Tombstone Tourist. Neither morbid nor creepy, people worldwide enjoy visiting cemeteries for their beauty, tranquility and elaborate, unusual grave stones. You just might be one of them.

Numerous forlorn, abandoned burial grounds abound in the Sierra foothills. Come and learn where they are and why so many people for centuries love wandering among the departed. 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the library.



## LIBRARY LINK: TEEN PROGRAM

Fall is a busy time at the library for the teen program. Run by Fresno County Teen Librarian Brittany Nimon, and assisted by our local technician Karen Hankins, this group creates arts and crafts, reviews books together, and gets some quality non-school social time! They have already completed projects on Duct Tape Crafts and Leather Stamping, and have a busy schedule ahead:

- 10/9 Camp Crafts
- 10/16 Gemstone Soap
- 10/23 Maker's Kit Crafts
- 10/30 Glow in the Dark Painting
- 11/6 Stained Glass Paper Ornaments
- 11/13 Bad Art Contest

Currently, the group is reading *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer for their book club, if anyone else wants to read along. For those more interested in graphic novels, there is also the option to read *Wires and Nerves* by the same author.



Gemstone soap (photo: Emily Shwake BuzzFeed Nifty)

County-wide, there is an art contest going on in October. Teens are invited to submit an original drawing, painting or collage based on their favorite book. Artwork will be shared on the Teens website and in a display at the Central Library. Prizes include a telescope and a Samsung tablet. For more info, go to <http://teens.fresnolibrary.org/teen-read-week/>

## NELDER GROVE TEEN TOUR



My name is Harley McCorkle and I want to tell you about my trip to the Nelder Grove of Giant Sequoias with The Friends of the Auberry Library.

The Friends of the Auberry Library host Teen Tours during the summer months; the FOAL volunteers meet

and decide on different fun trips for the program.

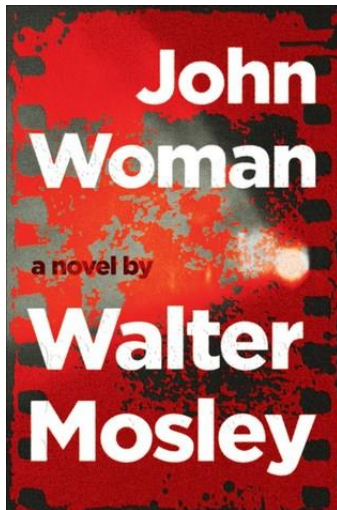
The Nelder Grove trip was one of the greatest FOAL trips I have been on! And I should say I have been on quite a few. When we arrived at the grove we were joined by our tour guide Brenda Negley, we hiked while she talked about everything we were seeing. We learned about the Giant Sequoias, pinecones, and the ecosystem. We also learned how to tell the trees apart. Brenda shared her family history at the Grove. Her grandparents were the first hosts at the grove and served there for 20 years.

All of the sequoias have names. My favorite sequoia was Mexico, located just south of the sequoia named America. Mexico is large and tall, but she is not perfect...she is tilted to one side just a little bit. At the end of our hike we had lunch and our tour guide joined



My favorite pic: The Bullbuck Tree

us, she talked to us about her book **Nelder Grove - A Granddaughter's Stories**. History and nature lovers alike would really enjoy her book. All of us on the tour had an amazing time at Nelder Grove.



**Reviewer:** Jamelie Taylor

**Genre:** Literary Fiction

**John Woman by Walter Mosley (2018)**

Cornelius Jones believes the lessons his father Herman, an avid student of history, taught him--specifically "the only way to capture the essence of history is to make it up." After adolescent Cornelius becomes involved in a crime, discovers sex with an older woman and suffers the death of his father, he reinvents himself as Professor John Woman who teaches Deconstructionist Historical Devices at a private southwestern university. Teaching and modeling his beliefs that controlling one's history allows someone to control his own fate, John struggles with relationships, his need for family and his true identity. In this novel Mosley presents a provocative tale as well as many intellectual ideas that challenge the study of history.

**Reviewer:** Barbara Kee

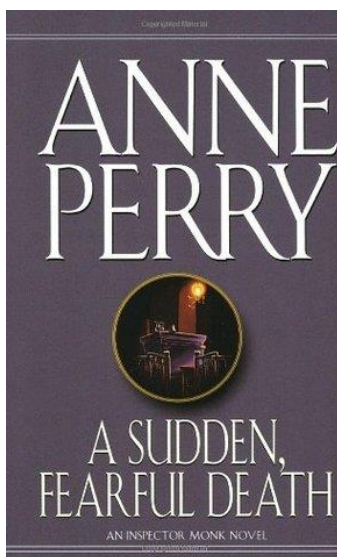
**Genre:** Historical Fiction, Mystery

**A Sudden, Fearful Death by Anne Perry (1993)**

This engaging, though complicated, Victorian-era mystery novel is set in London and revolves around the murder of Prudence Barrymore, a young nurse who served with Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Private investigator William Monk is hired by her family to bring her killer to justice. The hunt for the killer takes many twists and turns where we meet many well-developed characters. A look into the class system during this era, the role of women, and the horrid state of hospitals are all revealed as the mystery unfolds. An element of romance is included in this novel between William Monk and Hester Latterly, another nurse who served on the Crimean battlefields.

Anne Perry is a fascinating writer whose imagination seems endlessly creative. Perhaps this is due to her early life experiences. As a fifteen year old girl by the name of Juliet Hulme, she and friend Pauline Parker murdered Pauline's mother and spent 5 years in prison in New Zealand. As an adult, she changed her name to Anne Perry and created a new life for herself as a prolific author.

A Sudden, Fearful Death, is book 4 in the William Monk series and all of the previous mysteries have been just as inventive. The depiction of the strength of the women in this mystery series while they served as nurses in the Crimean War with Florence Nightingale and their challenges when they return home to build new lives is inspiring reading, even as fiction.



## CONTINUED FROM P. 1. BENEFIT CONCERT

donated half of it back to FOAL and then bought a round of drinks for some friends.

Concessions at the concert included Mi Ranchito Tacos for dinner, Ooh De Lolli for sweet treats, and Stonehouse Tavern for adult beverages. All in all, FOAL netted a profit of \$5,600 towards the community programs it will sponsor next year.

## FALL/WINTER CALENDAR



**Saturday and Sunday, October 13 & 14**, 26th Annual Harvest Arts Festival, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat & 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun. Sierra High and the Eastern Fresno County Historical Society Museum.

**Friday, November 2**, Jaguar Bennett and his one man show – Mansplaining. 8 p.m., Auberry Library

**Tuesday November 13**, Anne Neal Guest Speaker Series: Tombstone Tourist. 7:00-8:30 p.m., Auberry Library

**Friday, November 16**, The Danny Green Jazz Trio with Eva Scow. Social 1/2 hour 7:00-7:30, Concert 7:30-9:00. Auberry Library

**Friday, November 30**, Illusionist Bryan Patrick, The Magician So Amazing, He Amazes Himself!! 8 p.m., Auberry Library

**Monday to Wednesday, December 3-5**, Holiday Book Sale, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. each day. FOAL office, Oakview Terrace.

## ABOUT US

### Friends of the Auberry Library (FOAL)

*A registered non-profit since 2005*

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#### FOAL Focus Newsletter

Connie Schlaefer, Editor

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

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Valley Iron Inc.

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Bonner Family Foundation

**We're on the Web!**

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

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