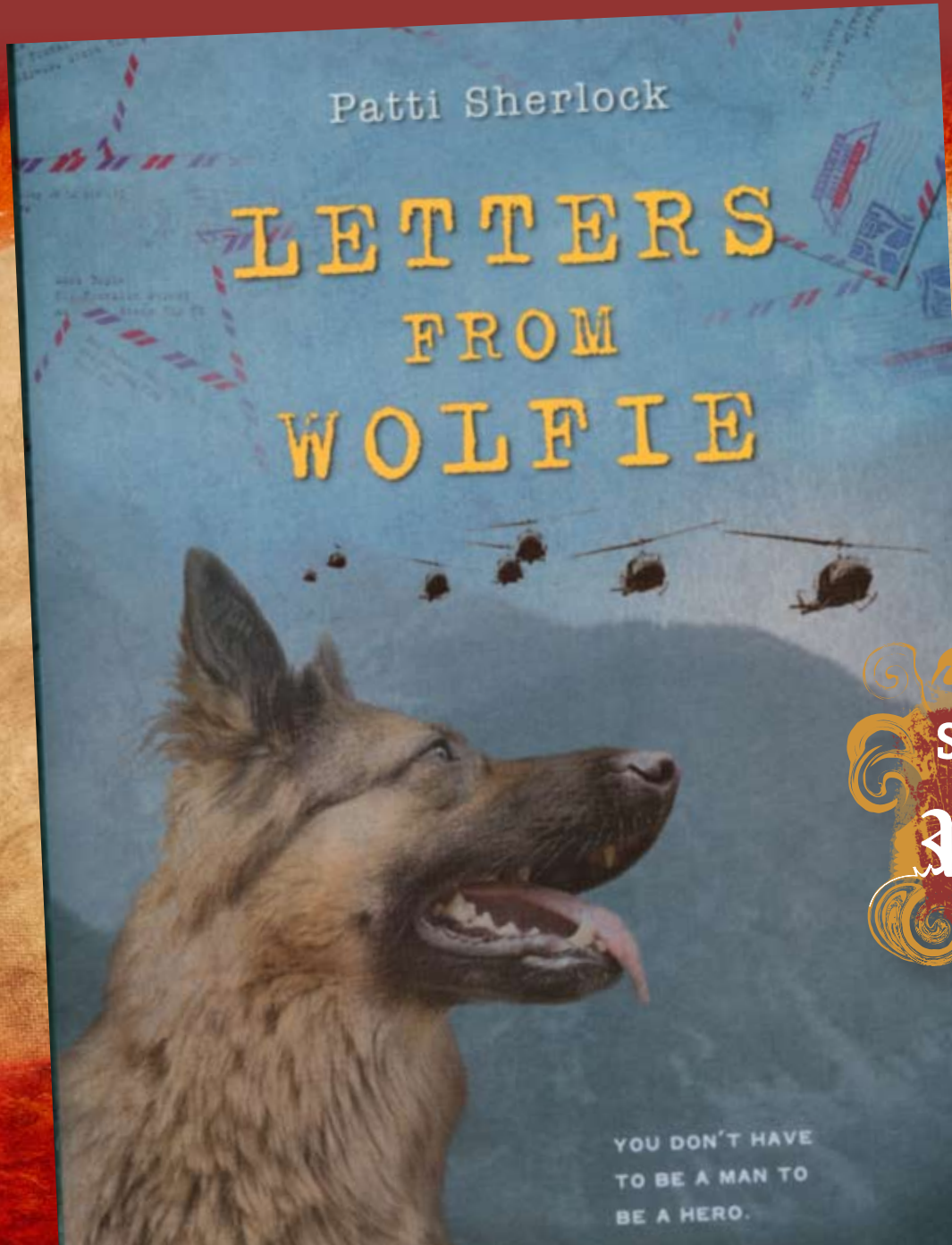


# CheckItOut!

Fall 2008



*What if every  
kid read the  
same book  
at the same  
time?*



Newsletter of the Solano County Library, serving the cities of Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville, and Vallejo



Remembering  
Solano  
County:  
Barbara  
Braker



Life  
Coaching  
for Literacy  
Learners



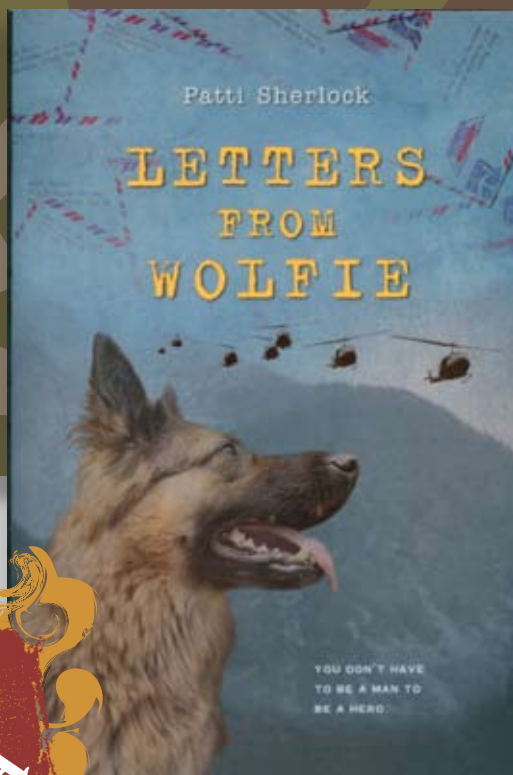


*Solano Kids Read is a free program that encourages kids to read for fun and to experience books in new ways.*

For more information call  
**1-866-57-ASKUS**  
or go to  
**[solanolibrary.com](http://solanolibrary.com)**



*Solano Kids Read is sponsored by Solano County Library and the Solano County Library Foundation.*



## Letters from Wolfie

*by Patti Sherlock*

Mark's dog, Wolfie, is part Malamute, part German Shepherd and all heart. Mark can hardly imagine life without his big, loving canine companion. But in 1969, the Vietnam War is still raging, and when Mark learns that the army needs scout dogs, he decides to send Wolfie. Inspired by real events, *Letters from Wolfie* is a poignant story about sacrifice, loyalty and the complex meanings of patriotism.

### Letters from Wolfie Author at Solano County Libraries

Patti Sherlock, author of one of the best books about a best friend, will be visiting libraries from Vallejo to Rio Vista. Whether you join her for a student Q&A or a discussion at a reception, be sure to read and share your thoughts about this memorable book.

All events are FREE, sponsored by Friends of the Library.

#### Author Meet and Greet

*Meet Patti, enjoy some refreshments and get your book signed!*

Wednesday, November 12, 6-8 p.m.  
Vacaville Public Library-Town Square  
Thursday, November 13, 6-8 p.m.  
Fairfield Cordelia Library

#### Student and Author Q&As

Patti Sherlock talks about her book and answers questions from students, with book signings to follow.

Wednesday, November 12, 9-10:45 a.m.  
Riverview Middle School; Rio Vista  
This event is open to the public.

*For the following school visits, reservations begin in September, space is limited.*

Thursday, November 13, 10 a.m.  
Springstowne Library, Vallejo  
Wednesday, November 12, 1-2:30 p.m.  
Suisun City Library/Suisun Elementary School  
Friday, November 14, 9:45-11:30 a.m.  
John F. Kennedy Library, Vallejo  
Friday, November 14, 1-2:30 p.m.  
Fairfield Community Center  
Friday, November 14, 5 p.m.  
Benicia Public Library

#### Letters to Our Troops

To honor the working dogs of the military and the men and women they protect, kids can write letters to our troops as part of Solano Kids Read.

#### Read *Letters from Wolfie* in Your Email

In October *Letters from Wolfie* will be featured in the library's Online Book Club.



## More Events

### Doggy Dancing With Weimeraners

Thursday, September 18, 4 p.m.  
Vacaville Public Library-Town Square

### Leaping Disc Dogs

Tuesday, October 7, 4:30 p.m.  
Vacaville Public Library-Town Square

### Shelter Pets & Make a Dog Treat Day

Saturday, October 11, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.,  
— dog treats at 2 p.m.  
John F. Kennedy Library, Vallejo

### Vito Shows His Stuff

Thursday, October 16, 4 p.m.  
Vacaville Public Library-Town Square

### Dog Training Demo with Brenna the Shetland Sheepdog

Tuesday, October 21, 7 p.m.  
Rio Vista Library

### Puppy Bingo with Gift Certificates for Winners

Thursday, October 30, 4-5 p.m.  
Fairfield Civic Center Library

### Bracelets and Stuffed Dog Crafts for Older Kids

Tuesday, November 4, 4-5:30 pm.  
Fairfield Civic Center Library

### Letters from Wolfie Book Party

Wednesday, November 5, 4-5 p.m.  
John F. Kennedy Library, Vallejo  
Open to all kids who have read the book.

### Letters From Wolfie Scavenger Hunt for Teens

Thursday, November 6, 3:30-5 p.m.  
Fairfield Cordelia Library

### Meet a Police Dog

Friday, November 7, 3:30 p.m.  
Fairfield Cordelia Library

### Meet the Sheriff's K-9

Saturday, November 8 at 2 p.m.  
John F. Kennedy Library, Vallejo

### Letters From Wolfie Book Party

Saturday, November 8, 2 p.m.  
Fairfield Cordelia Library  
Open to all kids who have read the book.

### Letters from Wolfie Book Party

Wednesday, November 12, 3-4 p.m.  
Springstowne Library, Vallejo

## Working Like a Dog



From sniffing out criminals and guiding the blind, to going on search and rescue missions, everyday across the country, dogs are going to work.

Dogs instinctively know how to find things. Because of their keen sense of smell they are able to track nearly anything. Everything has a unique smell, and with 44 times the sniffing power of humans: dogs can pick up a scent and follow it! Dogs can track people through snow and water, making them perfect candidates to help people.

In *Letters From Wolfie*, Mark gives up his beloved dog Wolfie to serve as a scout dog in the Vietnam War, a time when the military routinely used dogs in the field. Beginning in the 1940's, these special dogs were dubbed the "K-9 Corps" and were used for sentry duty, patrol, or as messengers.

In Solano County, the Fairfield Police Department is one law enforcement agency that uses working dogs. The specialized K-9 team is made up of six dogs that help apprehend suspects and locate evidence that is used to solve crimes. Just like Wolfie, these amazing dogs are companions that help save lives.

You can also find working dogs at the Solano County Library. The PAWS for Healing program brings specially trained therapy dogs to places in the community such as libraries and hospitals. Kids visiting the Vacaville Town Square Library or Rio Vista Library have the opportunity to read to a dog and gain confidence to practice their reading in a relaxed setting.

This Fall, Solano County Library will kick off our second annual Solano Kids Read event with a whole line up of special dog activities. Join us by reading *Letters From Wolfie* and visiting your local library or the website at [www.solanolibrary.com](http://www.solanolibrary.com) to learn more about these amazing working dogs.

*By Kristen Murray, Children's Librarian, Fairfield Cordelia Library*

June 25, 2008:

*The crowds surged in on Opening Day, and the new Suisun City Library has been breaking records ever since.*



DAVID SHALLECK



## Full Slate for Authors Luncheon 2008

Authors for this year include young adult and children's author Megan McDonald, whose newest works include *Judy Moody Goes to College* and *Stink and the Great Guinea Pig Express*. Laurie King, mystery writer extraordinaire and creator of the popular Mary Russell series of historical mysteries will be on hand to talk about her work and her latest thriller, *Touchstone*. Also on board are chef, culinary producer, and food stylist David Shalleck, who takes readers sailing on a culinary journey aboard a luxury yacht in *Mediterranean Summer*. Psychologist, lecturer, and artist, Lillian Rubin, will discuss the future of aging baby boomers and talk about her latest book, *60 and up: The Truth About Aging in America*. Globe-trotting research is behind New York Times journalist Jennifer Lee's eye-opening saga, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles: Adventures in the World of Chinese Food*. And rounding out this year's slate of authors is David Masiel, whose second book *The Western Limit of the World* is a gripping adventure on the open seas.



DAVID MASIEL



LAURIE KING



LILLIAN RUBIN



MEGAN MCDONALD



JENNIFER LEE



Emily Dickinson once said, “There is no frigate like a book to take us lands away...” and this year’s Solano County Library Foundation Authors Luncheon will feature authors whose books take readers on fascinating journeys. All six authors have been confirmed for Authors Luncheon 2008, scheduled for Sunday, November 2 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse at Rancho Solano in Fairfield. With another exciting line-up of authors and a variety of genres represented, this year’s luncheon promises to have its usual wide audience appeal.

This annual literary event attracts up to 400 fans that have the opportunity to meet some of their favorite authors, who are available to sign their books before and after the luncheon. In addition, each author talks about his or her work and career during the luncheon program. A live auction will feature exciting journeys, destinations and experiences as well as “immortality contracts”, the opportunity to have a character with your name in a future book. Returning this year as the emcee will be Edie Lambert from KCRA Channel 3 Sacramento, as well as the always entertaining Joe Gates, our local celebrity auctioneer.

Tickets for the event are \$80, and will be available in mid-September. Table sponsorships and ads in the Luncheon program are available now.

Call the Foundation office 707.421.8075 or email [libraryfoundation@sbcglobal.net](mailto:libraryfoundation@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

Up-to-date information about the event and other Solano County Library Foundation activities are available on the website [www.solanolibraryfoundation.org](http://www.solanolibraryfoundation.org).

by Ruth Gardner Begell,  
Executive Director,  
Solano County Library Foundation



The annual Authors Luncheon is the Solano County Library Foundation’s major fundraiser for its Reach Out and Read pediatric literacy program and other literacy programs. The Solano County Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the programs of the Solano County Library and the literacy and lifelong learning needs of the community it serves. It provides funding for special projects that the Library cannot fund with public dollars, enabling the Library to reach those who need its services.

## Test Drive a Career with an Internship

The road from college to a career is more uncertain for some than it is for others. Advice to college kids on how to prepare for graduation can be helpful, but it will be as various as the people who supply it, making it hard to sort through. But don't despair, by equipping yourself with experience you can set yourself apart from other graduates, and become more competitive in job searching.

Mentors have perpetuated our belief that going to college is an effective way to get a job. Luckily for us college goers, they were right! However, consideration must be given to the fact that experience is a factor in whether one gets the desired job.

College provides a forum for our cultivation, but on-the-job experience shows an employer the end result of that growth. A tested and proved method of overcoming this obstacle may be made

available in the form of an internship.

Internships, similar to apprenticeships, are a way for students to have a trial job in a field of interest. Internships are created by organizations for several reasons including showcasing new employment, getting top-notch temporary help, or engendering new ideas. In return, interns receive quality job experience to land that first job after graduation.

Start searching for an internship at the career center on your college campus.

Most college websites have a search engine from the homepage, that can direct you to information on internships. For example, the University of California at Berkeley provides listings of internships on and off campus, filterable by desired field, and work-study programs as well. Information on these sites can include FAQ's,

ways to meet with counselors, and different organizations that have worked with prior students.

If there is no such resource at your college's website, just Google "Internships" to be bombarded with pages of different search results. Sites such as [www.internshipprograms.com](http://www.internshipprograms.com) allow prospective applicants to post resumes, while other sites, such as [www.monstertrak.com](http://www.monstertrak.com), allow employers to post internship positions with a short description of what time and skills one must offer to apply.

Your Solano County Library can also help you in researching and preparing to apply for an internship. From [www.solanolibrary.com](http://www.solanolibrary.com) you can access databases and find books on resume building, job lists, and opportunities to build skills that would be useful in internship hunting. The Fairfield Cordelia Library has a special collection of books

and other materials devoted to careers and college. This is popular with nearby Solano College and Rodriguez High School students, but anyone can reserve these materials and have them sent to their "home" branch. The Library also offers a phone service at 1-866-57-ASKUS (1-866-572-7587) where you will find friendly people who can help you get started in your internship search, even if you're not sure where to begin.

Internships provide a unique learning opportunity to college students who are lacking experience to nab a job after college. They can show you whether a job field is truly the one that will be best suited to you. An internship is perfect for honing the skills learned in college to achieve goals set in the work place.

*By Victoria Pena,  
Public Relations Intern*

### Meet Children's Author

*mem fox*

Tuesday, October 21 at 6:30 p.m.  
Fairfield Cordelia Library

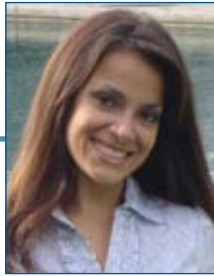


Mem Fox is the author of over twenty-five picture books, as well as the book *Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud Will Change Their Lives Forever*. Visiting us all the way from Australia, she will share her favorite stories and passion for reading with kids and adults of all ages.

Books will be available for purchase. Refreshments and book signing will follow Mem's talk. For more information call **1-866-57ASKUS (1-866-572-7587)**.

This program is brought to you by the Friends of the Fairfield-Suisun Libraries.

Victoria  
Peña



Summer of 2008 brought a new internship opportunity to Solano County Library as they welcomed Victoria Peña and Jeff Greger as college interns. This internship was meant to provide work experience to these students, and to demonstrate the many benefits the County has to offer their employees. In return, the Solano County Library benefited from the hard work and new ideas from the college interns. Jeff Greger, a second year Industrial Design Major at San Jose State, and Victoria Peña, a fourth year English Major at UC Berkeley, discovered the opportunity from the county website. With a strong background in writing, editing, and communication, Peña says the internship “was absolutely perfect” for her skill set. Internships provide wisdom that can’t be found in a classroom. As Jeff put it, “Classes don’t give you an idea of what the real world is like; internships give you a taste of that”. Ann Miller, the Library’s community relations coordinator, acted as primary supervisor and mentor throughout the experience, nurturing, critiquing, engaging, and assigning projects for the interns that best suited their personal ability. Miller comments on the program, “College interns bring energy and a fresh perspective to the organization. We give them meaningful job experience and in return, we get help from highly skilled and hard-working individuals who we hope will consider the county for future employment, now that they’ve had a chance to try us out.”



Jeff  
Greger



*“Seussical” the Musical,  
Free @ Your Library*

# Seussical

*“Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!”*

*Transport yourself to a wonderful world of glee and imagination as Dr. Seuss characters come to life before your very eyes! Spinning through a fantastical series of adventures are lovable and famous folks including The Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, Lazy Mayzie and The Mayor of Whoville to name a few. It’s fun for the whole family that includes some marvelous and relevant themes that appeal to all ages.*

November 5, Vacaville Cultural Center Library

November 19, Fairfield Civic Center Library

November 25, Suisun City Library

December 2, Rio Vista Library

December 3, John F. Kennedy Library, Vallejo

December 10, Fairfield Cordelia Library

December 15, Springstowne Library, Vallejo

December 17, Vacaville Library - Town Square

All performances will begin at 4 p.m. and be approximately 30-40 minutes long.

SEUSSICAL™

MUSIC BY STEPHEN FLAHERTY • LYRICS BY LYNN AHRENS • BOOK BY LYNN AHRENS  
AND STEPHEN FLAHERTY • CO-CONCEIVED BY LYNN AHRENS, STEPHEN FLAHERTY,  
AND ERIC IDLE • BASED ON THE WORKS OF DR. SEUSS



To celebrate Older Americans month, Solano County Library sponsored a project in April 2008 called Remembering Solano County. The library collected and documented the stories of residents, who were school-age children or teenagers, living in Solano County during the 1930s and 1940s. Interviews were conducted by students and volunteers from Fairfield, Rio Vista, Vacaville and Vallejo. Read more in the news section at [solanolibrary.com](http://solanolibrary.com)



AUG. 1934 - Bossy OUR milk cow

## BARBARA BRAKER

By Cayla,  
Armijo High School



DAD WITH BARBARA - 1931

Barbara Braker was born right here in Fairfield in 1930. She has never lived anywhere else. It is something of a family tradition.

Barbara's grandfather immigrated to Fairfield from Denmark in 1882 and, in 1891, he bought a ranch near Highway 12 in what is now Raley's Shopping Center. Barbara's family continued to live on that very ranch until they had to eventually sell it to make room for new housing developments. Her family did not want to move, but they were practically forced to because they needed the money to pay their taxes. Barbara said that it was "a sad day for everybody" when they had to sell their property.

Barbara's mother, along with five of her aunts, attended Armijo High School. One of them was even in the

graduating class of 1908, which only had 11 graduates. It was only natural that Barbara went there as well. She graduated from Armijo High School

in 1948. One of the teachers who stood out to her most was Ms. Carlson who she "adored." Ms. Carlson taught language classes, so after spending two years with her in French and Spanish, language ended up being Barbara's favorite subject. Her least favorite subject, though, was math. Barbara wasn't much of an athlete in high school. Although she did enjoy volleyball and played on Armijo's tennis team, she was more



GETRUE BIDSTRUP, KAAS, ALKAS, HAYDEN, ELAINE GRANDA BIDSTRUP, Ed, GRANDA BIDSTRUP



interested in horseback riding on her ranch for fun.

One of the things Barbara remembers most about her high school career was the fashion. First, she pointed out, "No girls wore pants". It was all about pleated skirts and sweaters. She recalled the upper-class girls wearing angora sweaters whereas "the rest of us had wool". Besides that, other popular styles that most other girls wore included saddle shoes with bobby socks rolled over. Barbara claims that she is "appalled at young kids' clothes today" but she knows that those were "way different times". Nowadays teenagers take their





own money and go down to the mall by themselves or with friends and stock up on various outfits, all at one time, throughout the whole year. When she was younger, Barbara's mother would take her either to San Francisco or Sacramento - there weren't many clothing stores here at the time - and buy her three dresses that would last her the whole year.

Once she got older, she'd take a train to Oakland, then a ferry into the city and shop, once again, because of the lack of stores here in Fairfield. Back then the entire business district only filled three blocks.

Barbara was able to shop with her own money after obtaining a job at the pear shed (now the Cordelia Antique Shop). She worked for her friend's dad, who owned the place, sorting fruit for 75¢ an hour, for three summers, sometimes working 12 hour shifts. (The child labor laws were different back then!)

The prospect of driving one's own car in high school was different back then as well. Now it is fairly common for students to drive cars once

they reach a certain age; back then cars were scarce, and most students didn't have any. Barbara's family was lucky enough to have one, though. Having a car made her popular, she added with a chuckle.

Before Barbara was 15, she used to have to depend on other people to go where she wanted, but after that she started driving. Barbara along with her friends, would drive to Suisun after school to get ice cream or go to the skating rink. Once she even drove down to the Golden Gate Park in San Francisco with her friends to go see Frank Sinatra live. Barbara and her friends rarely went anywhere by themselves. Even on their dates they'd go as a group, so she never had anyone she considered as a steady boyfriend. Later though, she began dating an older man whom she later married.

Looking back on it all, Barbara has a hard time believing just how much has changed about Fairfield these past 78 years. She describes herself as

experiencing culture shock, mostly of witnessing the town grow from about 2,000 people to 100,000 people. She likes to remember the old times, thinking back to the time when there was no crime, fewer cars, and no speeding tickets.

What she misses the most is the tranquility about the town and the slower pace. This was reflected clearly when she sadly said, "I can go to the mall...and never see a person I know."

Not all things are bad, though. Barbara said the best improvement she's seen so far has been the healthcare, because she didn't have any growing up. Still, she really enjoyed her youth in Fairfield, especially making new friends and keeping the old. The only thing she regrets is not having studied more and played less, something she advises all young people today to do. But during the interview, she dwelt mostly on the good times she had while still living on that ranch.



2-10-1931 BILL B. WITH BILL BROWNE & SISTER



CHARLIE & HAYDEN KAAS IN FRONT OF BARN AT THE RANCH



GRANDPA BIDSTRUP & AKAAS



## Obscene in the Extreme: Why Books Still Get Banned

Last spring at the massive BookExpo America (BEA)—the premier event for the book publishing industry—a standing-room-only audience listened raptly to a distinguished panel of authors discuss book banning in the United States. Occasionally a gasp or murmur, or even a whoop, would be heard. Clearly, the room full of book publishers, sellers, and librarians was mesmerized by the history being shared.

The presentation was moderated by Nicholas Goldberg, *Opinion* editor of the Los Angeles Times, and included the following panelists: Rick Wartzman (*Obscene in the Extreme; the Burning and Banning of John Steinbeck's The Grapes of Wrath*, September 2008); Chris Finan (*From the Palmer Raids to the Patriot Act*, 2007); and Luis Rodriguez (*Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A.*, 1993).

Wartzman's new book focuses on Kern County's banning and burning of *The Grapes of Wrath* in 1939. He highlighted Gretchen Knief, the Kern County librarian who fought back. He quoted her: "If that book is banned today, what book will be banned tomorrow?" It was all we could do to keep California State Library consultant Cindy Media-villa, a major library history buff, from whooping with triumph at this testimony of a heroic librarian's tale! Finan's book is a history of our nation's fight for free speech, explaining the significance of Comstock laws (obscenity bans, among other things), and pointing to the American Library Association's (ALA) "Freedom to Read" statement in 1953 as a major turning point for the country. Finan noted that President Eisenhower had spoken out against political censorship earlier that summer, helping to ensure a positive groundswell for more open opinion. Rodriguez's book has remained so consistently popular since it was first published in 1993, that library copies are usually checked out or missing. He commented that "Reading is essential"—for growing healthy young people. Rodriguez's passion really resonated with the audience, and audience members surged forward to talk with him individually after the presentation. This was an eye-opening panel, reminding us again of the importance of what libraries provide: the freedom to read. 1953 was a pivotal year when the "Freedom to Read" document was adopted by ALA, as was 1982, when "Banned Books Week" was introduced. These dates (1953 and 1982) are no accident—they reflect increased pressure to remove titles and censor collections during those eras.

*By Terry Jacobsen, Supervising Librarian, Training & Virtual Services*

## Banned Books Week

(BBW) is an annual national celebration of the democratic freedom to read, this year running September 27 – October 4, 2008. Co-sponsored by a coalition of library and book-related organizations, the event aims to draw attention to challenges to books in schools, bookstores, and libraries.

*What types of books get challenged most often? Take a look at this list of the most challenged books of 2000-2005:*

1. Harry Potter series  
by J.K. Rowling
2. *The Chocolate War*  
by Robert Cormier
3. Alice series  
by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
4. *Of Mice and Men*  
by John Steinbeck
5. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*  
by Maya Angelou
6. *Fallen Angels*  
by Walter Dean Myers
7. *It's Perfectly Normal*  
by Robie Harris
8. Scary Stories series  
by Alvin Schwartz
9. Captain Underpants series  
by Dav Pilkey
10. *Forever*  
by Judy Blume

(List provided by the ALA  
Office for Intellectual Freedom,  
[www.ala.org/oif](http://www.ala.org/oif)).





# Soroptimists Fund Life Coaching for Literacy Learners



What does passion have to do with leadership? Fifteen women from the Solano County Library Adult Literacy Program will find out this fall. Thanks to a generous grant from Soroptimist International – Central Solano, each adult learner will learn how to find and support her passions in living the life she wants to live. Each woman will attend four full-day life-coaching sessions facilitated by Phyllis Flemings, Certified Life Coach, who will help the participants find their life purpose while shifting their focus away from self-limiting thought patterns. “The women will learn strategies for living their lives with clarity, focus, ease and grace. They will clarify their life priorities by identifying their life passions,” says Flemings.

By Sandy Tosti, Manager,  
Library Literacy Services

Typically, adult learners have experienced failure during their education. This impacts their self-esteem and self-confidence. Add to that feelings of inadequacy in their abilities to negotiate life’s challenges with the reading and writing skills that they have.

Once learners improve their reading and writing skills, the vision of what is possible in life becomes more tangible. As Soroptimist members know, frequently, women who are coached, mentored or supported are better able to move forward with their life goals. Research shows that training alone is 22% effective, while coaching paired with training increase effectiveness to 88%<sup>1</sup>. We also know that as women bond with other women, their social ties reduce their risk of disease by lowering blood pressure, heart rate and cholesterol.

One of our adult learners has always felt that it’s possible to do anything with enough focus and determination. She anticipates that after the four month life-coaching series, it will be easier to achieve her goals and even to teach her daughter to achieve her own goals.

With the Soroptimist grant, these 15 women will be better equipped to expand their leadership skills, self-confidence and life potential to their own benefit and to that of their family and community.

*“The women will learn strategies for living their lives with clarity, focus, ease and grace. They will clarify their life priorities by identifying their life passions”*

— Phyllis Flemings  
Certified Life Coach

Lakesha Johnson, adult learner, graduated from a six month leadership program last June, and currently is enrolled in the life-coaching seminar. Lakesha plans to use the tools that she learns to reach her goal of opening her own hair salon.



<sup>1</sup> Oliver G., Bane and Kopelman, R.E. (winter 1997), Executive coaching as a transfer of training tool: Effects on productivity in a public agency. Public Personnel Management. 26, 4, 461-469.

# You've Got a Friend



For every organization there is a group of people who dedicate time and energy for the service of its good. The library, now and at its earliest beginnings, is no exception. With an origin dating so far back that no one can agree on it, the fact remains that through every season of war or peace, famine or plenty, the library's confidants have stuck by its side, contributing time and money to ensure its longevity in society.

At Solano County Library, this group is fittingly called the Friends of the Library. There are four organizations of Friends

to cover eight library branches, but their motives are the same: to raise money and support for library programs and events. You may be asking yourself why this group is necessary if the library is an entity of the county, and therefore provided for with a budget. Simply, the "extras" the libraries offer wouldn't be possible without the diligence and determination of this group. Items that fall under this category are craft supplies, refreshments, books for classrooms, games, prizes and the list goes on.

The Friends of the Library, a group entirely made up of volunteers, raise money through the sale of books that have been donated by people in the community or taken out of circulation by the library. The books are sorted and sold to the public for as low as a dime. But despite the low cost of these books, the Friends of the Library are responsible for thousands of dollars put to use at their branches annually. Fairfield Civic Center is the only branch with a permanent book store, but many of the branches have their own version of the same thing. At John F. Kennedy Library in Vallejo there's a mini-bookstore set up on its main floor, and Vacaville Cultural Center has shelves designated for the Friends book sales.

Without the dedication, support, and loyalty of this group, functions of the library wouldn't be able to provide the same quality that they do with the support of their Friends volunteers. By not only raising money, but in giving large amounts of time, this group has set itself apart as one that has a heart for the literacy, freedom of information, and scholarship.

*By Victoria Pena, Public Relations Intern*



SOLANO COUNTY LIBRARY  
"Unlock the doors to your mind"

## SOLANO COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS

1150 Kentucky St  
Fairfield CA 94533  
Tel 707-784-1506  
Fax 707-421-7474  
solanolibrary.com

**1-866-57-ASKUS**  
(1-866-572-7587)

### FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

1150 KENTUCKY ST  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

### FAIRFIELD CORDELIA LIBRARY

5050 BUSINESS CENTER DR  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94534

### SUISUN CITY LIBRARY

601 PINTAIL DRIVE  
SUISUN CITY, CA 94585

### RIO VISTA LIBRARY

44 S. 2ND STREET  
RIO VISTA, CA 94571

### VALLEJO- JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY

505 SANTA CLARA ST  
VALLEJO, CA 94590

### VALLEJO-SPRINGS- TOWNE LIBRARY

1003 OAKWOOD AVE  
VALLEJO, CA 94591

### VACAVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY- CULTURAL CENTER

1020 ULATIS DR  
VACAVILLE, CA 95687

### VACAVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY -TOWN SQUARE

1 TOWN SQUARE PLACE  
VACAVILLE, CA 95688