

CHAPTERS

Deschutes Public Library Newsletter

3rd Annual

A Novel Idea... Read Together

With the Award-winning *González & Daughter Trucking Co.* by María Amparo Escandón

The Deschutes Public Library and the Library's Foundation present the third annual **A Novel Idea...Read Together**. This reading and discussion program encourages Deschutes County residents to read the same book, at the same time, and join in a countywide book club.



This year's selection is *González & Daughter Trucking Co.* by María Amparo Escandón. It has captivated reading groups across America with its rich story of life on the road and the love and hurt of a father and daughter on the run.

"This award-winning book is a whimsical and passionate novel that explores the power of storytelling, the bonds of family, the meaning of freedom, and the quest for redemption," said Novel Idea Project Director Chantal Strobel. "The story of Libertad, her father, and her fellow inmates in a Mexican prison is unveiled to readers through clever storytelling. The novel's cathartic power allows readers opportunities to experience, resolve, and confront issues."

An array of programs include presentations by scholars, films, music, art, truckers, and several events with the author that support and enhance this year's novel. All of the programs are free and open to the public.

The novel and accompanying materials are in both Spanish and English. A reader's guide and event listing are available online (www.dpls.us) and will be in the Libraries at the end of March.

A Novel Idea culminates with author María Amparo Escandón who will discuss her novel at the Tower Theatre in Bend on Wednesday, April 26 and Thursday, April 27 from 7:30–8:30 p.m. A book signing follows in the lobby. These special evenings are free to the public but attendees must pick up tickets at their local library for entry. Seating is limited. Tickets will be available on Saturday, April 8 at the public libraries in Bend, La Pine, Redmond, Sisters, and Sunriver Area.

The author will also read and discuss her book in Spanish at Mi Pueblito Restaurant on Saturday, April 29 at 2:00 p.m.



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Contents

- 1 A Novel Idea
- 2 Library Update
- 3 Teens & kids
- 4 Branch News
- 5 From the Director

Download Audio Books

Library2Go is a new service that allows you to download audio books onto a computer, MP3 player, or burn them to a CD.

Library2Go is available through the cooperation of the Deschutes Public Library and the Oregon Digital Library Consortium. Eight public libraries cooperated to create the consortium, sharing costs and pooling resources to better serve patrons.

“This is technology at its best,” said Electronic Services Librarian Liisa Sjoblom. “Bestselling titles are available 24/7.” Titles expire after 2 weeks so there is no need to return items and no late fees. Best of all, **Library2Go** is free for all Deschutes Public Library cardholders.

Users will need a valid library card and access to the Internet to download free digital book software for the PC (see side-bar). Titles are digitally protected and optimized for downloading. These audio books are built using the Microsoft Windows Media Audio format. Currently, iPod products are not compatible with this system.

Rescue Campaign Provides a Happy Ending

The Friends of the Deschutes Public Library raised more than \$7,000 for the Cameron Parish Library in Louisiana. The library’s **Books to the Rescue** campaign helped support rebuilding library services in Cameron Parish that were devastated by hurricane activity last year.

“Keys to the success of this campaign was the support from the community and staff, and leadership from Library Friends organizations in Bend, La Pine, Redmond, Sisters, and Sunriver Area,” stated Library Director Michael Gaston. “Many donated quality books, supported book sales, made direct contributions, and seized the opportunity to support Cameron Parish.”

The money was mailed last week to the Cameron Parish Library and received with open arms.

“I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the people of Deschutes County, and the staff and Friends Organizations of the Deschutes Public Library,” said Cameron Parish Library Director Charlotte Trosclair. “These funds will help to refill our shelves with resources. We are still struggling with governmental agencies for funding, and many residents in this region feel they have been forgotten. Today, we know the people in Deschutes County, Oregon, remember and care enough to help during this very difficult time.”



Get Library2Go

- 1 On your home, school, or work PC, download, install, and register the OverDrive Media Console software at www.overdrive.com
- 2 Select audio books to download
- 3 Check your audio books out with your library card
- 4 Download and enjoy!

Best Audio Books for Teens

With thousands of audio books available specifically for teens, it can take time to find one that really interests you. Help is here! An annual list of notable audio recordings significant to young adults and released in the past two years is available at www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/selectedaudio.

For the past couple of years I've had the pleasure of serving on the American Library Association's (ALA) Young Adult Library Services Association's (YALSA) Division Audiobook committee. Our goal—select, annotate, and present for publication an annual list of outstanding teen-focused audio books.

List selection is based on appeal to a teen audience, the quality of the recording, and the enhancement of an audience's appreciation of any written work on which they may be based. The list, as a whole, addresses the interests and needs of young adults ranging in age from 12 to 18.

Many thanks to the Deschutes Public Library staff and teens that provided feedback on the titles. It's been an invaluable experience working with librarians across the nation to develop this "best of" audio books list for teens.

Josephine Caisse, Outreach Services Manager

Sunriver Area Teen Section Deemed "Cool!"

Wandering back toward the south end of the library, you might notice a whole new look. No more lumbering, standard-issue library tables. In their place—smaller, eye-catching stainless steel café tables with funky blue chairs. Shifted shelving opens up once narrow space, and more changes are on the way, thanks to the library team and the local Friends of the Sunriver Area Library, headed by president Mary Lou Kreiss.

The financial support from the Friends got the ball rolling, and the results have garnered praise from local teens like: "These tables are cool!" and "I love the way it's set up like a café!" The Friends have also been generous in their support of **Teen Territory**. Each Wednesday when the Three Rivers Schools lets students out early for staff development, teens have a fun place to go. **Teen Territory** is set up with a stereo, magazines, and plenty of junk food.

Teen services are rapidly developing throughout the Deschutes Public Libraries. Thanks to the Friends group, the Sunriver Area Public Library is well on its way to becoming an inviting environment for teenagers.

April Witteveen, Teen Services Librarian

Bend River R.A.T.S.

Four-week sessions of reading, activities, treats and stories from 2:30–4pm are under way. The current series is "African Safari." Registered children learn about East and West Africa games, hear stories from Ashanti, Masai, and Samburu tribes, and make an African mask. The final series begins April 26 and is all about mysteries. Call 617-7097 to register.

[For grades 3–5, early release Wednesday afternoons, Bend Public Library]

Afterwords Workshops

Children's librarians will offer *Afterwords Workshops* with community partners who also work with school-aged children. The workshops guide after-school caregivers toward using literature and libraries in their programming. Call Paige Bentley at 617-7078 for more information.

Watch for...

Throughout May, librarians will be visiting schools to promote the library's Summer Reading Program. Please call Heather McNeil at 617-7099 to schedule a visit.

La Pine Library Happenings

As the winter snow begins to melt, the residents of La Pine are coming out of hibernation! Plus, the snowbirds are traveling back to town, migrating north for the warmer months of the year.

The La Pine Public Library remains busy as usual. When the school day ends, teens and elementary students dominate the scene! April, our Teen Librarian, is introducing **Teen Territory**. Free weekly events include snacks, magazines, assorted activities, and music. It's a chance for teens ages 12–17 to hang out in a safe environment with their friends, as well as gain exposure to library materials and programs. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesdays from 3–5 pm!

The **Friends of the La Pine Library** are back in action. Monthly meetings are every second Wednesday at 1 pm. The Friends always welcome new members, and have a variety of activities throughout the year, all of which benefit the La Pine Public Library. Stop by at a meeting and find out how you can help our library succeed!

Sandy Irwin, La Pine Public Library Manager

Volunteers Benefit District

Once again, volunteers at the Deschutes Public Library show their dedication with more service hours which has made a dramatic impact on patron services. Whether it's shelving, gardening, or mending books, volunteers make an important difference. For example, during fiscal year 2004, library volunteers clocked 12,508 hours. At an hourly wage of \$9.25 those hours mean \$115,699 saved. The 159 volunteers that serve Deschutes Public Library averaged 78 hours each.

Statistics are a necessary part of showing success, but what really counts when it comes to library volunteers are the services they provide library patrons. In the Reference department, volunteers lead classes and tutorials for patrons learning new skills. Honor Society students in Redmond are earning their required community service hours shelving pictures books. Volunteers in Outreach Services continue to keep the homebound connected to the library by selecting and delivering books. The new *Linx* project keeps volunteers busy pulling and shelving requested items for students in Bend and Sisters. Volunteers clip and collate newspaper articles about the library. Art committees around the district keep the walls of the branches adorned with photographs and art created by locals. They organize craft projects for our young readers.

Volunteers make the library run more smoothly, helping staff to better meet the needs of the community. The library is grateful for every hour and every deed donated by our volunteers.

REDMOND

The Redmond branch held its second annual **4th Grade Book Contest** and garnered 158 entries this year. The program merges public and private talents:

Redmond Writer's provide workshops in the library and classroom to help the children craft their story.

The **High Desert Society for the Arts** help kids match their artwork to the action of the story.

The **Redmond School District** hands out flyers to all of the children in early September. Some teachers incorporate the project into their lessons plans.

The **Redmond Rotary** provides the funds to help print copies of the winner and the runner's up entries. They also provide funds for a reception, book signing, and an exhibition of all the entries.

A great community effort!

Volunteers Rock!

159 volunteers served the Deschutes Public Library over 36,000 hours from 2003 to 2005.

12,508 (2005)

12,130 (2004)

11,461 (2003)

WWe were very flattered last month to host a delegation from a leading library that wanted to learn about our collaborative management system, which is based on Mark Samuel's Accountability Management Model. The delegation included the city's human resources manager and members of the library's management team.

A team of our own library managers reviewed our journey over the past five years. It has been a journey of learning and discovery as we brought the system to 14 departments and more than 100 employees.

Under this system, employees of each department develop a vision of "what it would like look like" if the department was operating at a high level of excellence. The vision is then translated into 20 or 30 statements which more specifically describe quality processes and methodology. They then rate their team on each of the statements. Two or three areas are chosen for development and become the focus of staff committees which report back to the departmental team.

The heart of the system is personal accountability. Each staff member takes responsibility for his or her own behaviors and attitudes. Each employee is challenged to move away from the traditional water cooler behaviors of blame and denial and, instead, take responsibility for building a positive organizational culture. To that end, employees develop an interaction agreement, which is in essence an agreement to treat one another with respect and integrity.

The Library District has now integrated these concepts throughout our organization. Each department is constantly working on one or two improvement projects. The personal accountability component provides the framework to resolve conflicts and is used by managers when coaching employees. Each department conducts an annual review to ensure that the vision and operational statements are still inspiring, and that employees remain committed to the interaction agreements.

As we conducted the workshop for the delegation, we were all surprised by the depth of our passion for our management system. Who would have thought that "Accountability" would evoke such a sense of accomplishment and commitment. Yet, there we all were, Accountability groupies!

At the end of the eight hour workshop, we were actually grateful to our colleagues for the opportunity to discuss our management model. It was an chance to recall our many mistakes and successes along the way, and to comprehend how very far we have traveled in a relatively short period.

If you would like to learn more about the Accountability Management Model, you can visit Mark Samuel's Web site at:
<http://www.impaqcorp.com/homepage.html>.

Michael Gaston, Deschutes Public Library Director

The Deschutes Public Library

Bend Public Library
601 NW Wall Street
Bend, Oregon 97701
617-7040

Outreach Services
507 NW Wall Street
Bend, Oregon 97701
312-1035

La Pine Public Library
16425 1st Street
La Pine, Oregon 97739
312-1090

Redmond Public Library
827 SW Deschutes Avenue
Redmond, Oregon 97756
312-1050

Sisters Public Library
110 N Cedar Street
Sisters, Oregon 97759
312-1070

Sunriver Area Public Library
56855 Venture Lane
Sunriver, Oregon 97707
312-1080

