

### Association of Rural and Small Libraries

Most people picture California as Hollywood, Silicon Valley, Disneyland and a maze of freeways. Yet I have just returned from attending the national conference of the Association of Rural and Small Libraries at Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Much to the amazement of many of the participants, the California delegation consisted of 30 librarians: the largest group from any state. Attendance by California librarians was paid for by scholarships from the State Library, and Monterey County Free Libraries (MCFL) had the honor of receiving two scholarships: one for the library director, and one for the manager of our Greenfield branch, Beth Lopez.

MCFL is a "mixed" library in every sense of the word. We are a large library system made up of a wide assortment of branches, book mobiles and library programs. In addition to our very diverse user population and staff, we have librar-

ies that are large and small, urban and rural, coastal and mountain, all spread out over an area of 3,000+ square miles. We even have "Frontier Libraries" which serve areas with a population of less than 11 people per square mile!

Rural and small libraries face unique challenges that are rarely discussed at many of the larger conferences for librarians, which tend to focus on the newer developments in the fields (which cost large amounts of money), or on new programs (that usually require a large staff to implement). This is all very good, but it is not enough for us.

At MCFL we work hard to make all the latest technologies available to our users (e.g., we recently launched our eBooks and eAudiobooks collections), but we also recognize the special needs of the rural and small libraries that are an integral part of our service model. Beth



and I returned from Gatlinburg, full of new ideas and we look forward to introducing many of them to help streamline services as this year goes by. Of course, we also always look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions on how we can serve you better.

Thank you!

Jayanti Addleman, County Librarian

*"The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

- Dr. Seuss, "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!"



### FMCFL included in an endowment prospect cultivation project.

The Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC), as part of the James Irvine Foundation Communities Advancing the Arts initiative, has honored the Foundation by

including us in an endowment prospect cultivation project. FMCFL, along with other local arts organizations, received consulting services assisting in the building of endowment programs. Also, as part of this process CFMC developed a list of prospects that would likely be interested in sustaining art organizations in Monterey County. These guests were then invited to a series of engaging and informative events designed to create and foster relationships between prospects and the organizations.

The event featuring FMCFL was held on June 14 at the beautiful Pebble Beach home of Christine and Jerry Baker. Several board members and library staff attended and took part in showcasing the good work of the Foundation and the County Libraries. Culminating the project, an Endowment Cultivation event will be held at Orientations in Monterey, on October 29, from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Community Foundation for Monterey County for presenting the Foundation with this opportunity for growth and sustainability. Literacy is certainly the mainstay of our society, and the cornerstone of the arts. ☺



"Here for Good"

Community Foundation for Monterey County

### Mission Statement

The Foundation believes in the power of libraries to enrich and change the lives of Monterey County residents, each of whom deserves equal access to information that will open windows to a larger world. The Foundation will educate the community about the County Libraries' Mission and create commitment and financial support to supplement public funding.

### Programs

Programs currently funded by the Foundation include:

- Adult Literacy
- Books and Materials
- Homework Centers
- Bookmobiles
- Children and Youth Programs
- Technology