



ANNUAL REPORT

09

The Year of the Archive

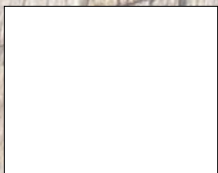
ESTES VALLEY
LIBRARY

Gather. Learn. Grow.

ESTES VALLEY
LIBRARY

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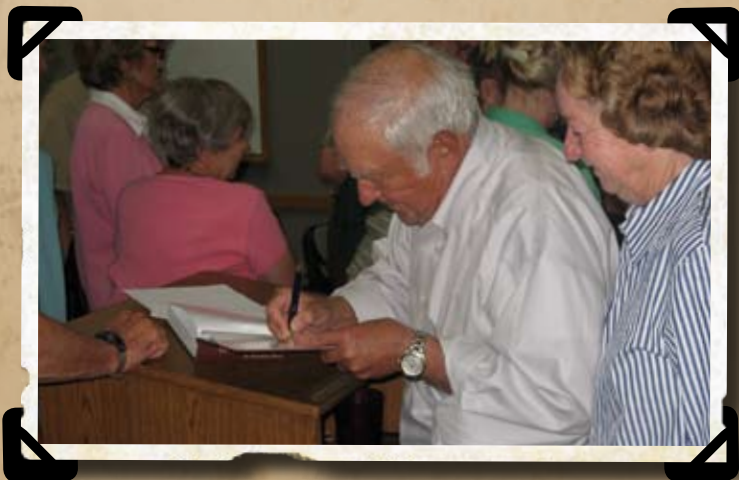
POSTAL PATRON



A YEAR TO REMEMBER

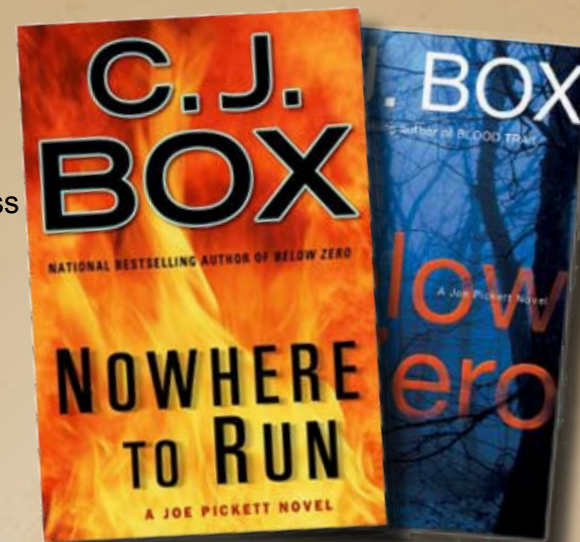
A year, and a decade, have drawn to a close, and everywhere there are “Top Ten” lists, “Best of” capsules, countdowns and retrospectives. 2009 was a year of some tremendous and notable achievements at the library. It's only fitting that we reflect on Ten Great Highlights of the year just past:

- 1. One Busy Year.** Amid the recession, people nationwide flocked to their local libraries, a trend reported by “The Wall Street Journal” and CBS and NBC News. The trend was the same in Estes Park, as we saw check-out transactions top 231,807, up 10% over last year and a new record.
- 2. A Treasure Trove of History.** 2009 was the “Year of the Archive”, with a major initiative that digitized early Estes Park newspapers and cataloged and preserved vital oral histories. Special programs included a capacity crowd for Dr. Jim Pickering’s talk on the history of the MacGregor Ranch, along with workshops on writing family history and preserving historic photos, all financed with a grant from the Friends of the Library.



- 3. New Logo, New Name.** In November, the Catch the Glow Parade showcased “Celebrate Books”, a beautiful float, also heralding the name “Estes Valley Library”, a term that truly reflects the library’s service area (and its legal name for more than 20 years). The name is matched to a new logo that shines on new library cards to be introduced in January 2010.
- 4. Civic Discourse Alive and Well.** The library remains a central place for public meetings and dialogue. Amid the heated summer debates over health care, Congresswoman Betsy Markey chose the library for a public hearing in September. Opinions were strong on both sides, but civility prevailed. Meanwhile, the League of Women Voters launched a monthly “Great Decisions” discussion group, leading community learning into topics ranging from Afghanistan to global food crisis.

- 5. Hondius Room Revitalized.** The very place for those events, the library’s largest meeting space, underwent interior enhancements late in 2009, thanks to a grant from the Library Foundation.
- 6. Book Sale Bonanza.** Nearly 45,000 books, DVDs, CDs and videos were on sale at the Friends of the Library Summer Used Book Sale. Made possible by generous donations from the community and a team of volunteer coordinators, this successful fund-raiser generated critical funds for library special projects.
- 7. A Dinner to Remember:** Bestselling Wyoming mystery author C.J. Box delivered a rousing address for the annual Library Foundation Benefit Dinner in September, matched by a fine dinner on a lovely evening at the Lakeshore Lodge. The annual event is a cornerstone in the Foundation’s important fund-raising efforts.



- 8. A Very Green Year.** The library continued its efforts to be ecologically-minded. In addition to the being the best source for reusing used books, we designated close to 1,000 cubic feet of paper, cardboard and other materials for recycling.
- 9. Paper-Free Interlibrary Loans.** Requesting materials from neighboring libraries became easier than ever with a new process allowing patrons to request materials from home without any form to fill out.
- 10.** Friends of the Library president Jim Kiple crunched some numbers to see where our library falls within a national comparison based on check-outs, number of visitors, attendance at programs, and Internet use. Jim’s conclusions were quite interesting: “The score for Estes Valley Library has a national percentage ranking of 5.3% - nearly in the top 5% nationally. Pretty impressive.”

HERE'S TO A STELLAR 2010 IN OUR ESTES VALLEY.

EVERYONE HAS A HISTORY

The Year of the Archive

Almost everyone you meet in Estes Park has a story to tell about their connection to this beautiful valley. Whether you are a descendent of one of the original residents or a returning vacationer whose head is filled with Estes Park memories from childhood, we all feel an affinity with this place.

Personal histories make up the history of a town. In 2009, The Year of the Archive, The Estes Valley Library spent much time and resources in preserving the various components that tell the story of Estes Park. The compilation of these materials allows us to share other's histories with you, to enrich your experience and connection to the paradise we call "home".

We worked in partnership with Colorado State University, the Estes Park Genealogical Society, the Estes Park Museum, The Trail Gazette, Estes Park News and local authors and historians. With generous funding from the Friends of the Library, we were able to bring local history to you in the following ways:

AN ARCHIVE'S HOME

The Archive has settled into its new home on the second floor of the library, where there is plenty of room for everything to be properly stored and protected. Staff is available to retrieve items from the Archive for public use within the Library. The Library's online catalog will simplify searching and encourage new explorations. Researching your personal connection has never been easier.

LOCAL HISTORY, MODERN ACCESS

In the coming months, the library will be releasing a new Local History website. This new website will act as a portal linking researchers to materials housed in the Archive and to various online resources that pertain to Estes Valley history. It will incorporate obituaries and oral histories that are currently included in our website but with enhanced features. This new website will vastly improve access to Estes Valley history for researchers locally and throughout the world.

VOICES OF THE PAST PRESERVED

Over the years, The Estes Valley Library has collected hundreds of interviews of local residents about their lives and significant events on audio tape. These tapes are stored in the Archive and make up the Oral History Collection. Up until now, only a small percentage were available transcribed and many of the tapes were quickly deteriorating. In order to preserve these voices for future generations, all of the tapes have been transcribed and many digitized. These voices from the past are significant, real and often touching. With improved access, they will add another dimension to studying the history of the Estes Valley.



OLD NEWSPAPERS ONLINE

The Archive has joined forces with dozens of libraries throughout Colorado to enhance access to small town historic newspapers. As a result, many Colorado papers, published before 1925, have been digitized. They are currently available for free at www.ColoradoHistoricNewspapers.org.

The online database features keyword searching of entire newspapers or browsing by date. Users can also print and save the digitized pages. By participating in this statewide project, the Archive has made available the following...

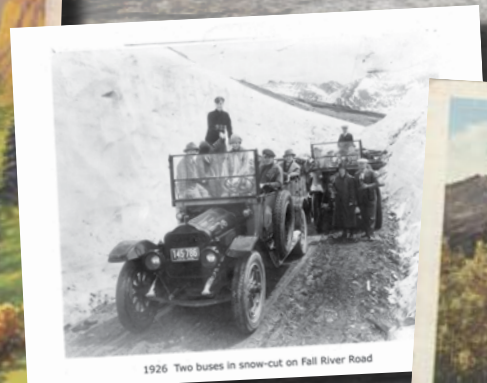
- Mountaineer 1908
- Estes Park Trail 1912-1914
- Trail Talk 1920
- Estes Park Trail 1921-1924

Thanks to the Colorado State Library for spearheading this project. Special thanks as well goes to The Estes Park Trail Gazette and Estes Park News for their partnership in making this possible.

It may be old news, but it's rich with history!

HISTORY BROUGHT TO LIFE

During The Year of the Archive, we hosted several programs to bring history to life. Included in the offerings were hands-on-workshops on scrap-booking, Family Legacy writing and Genealogy, as well as presentations on historical nuggets such as the MacGregors, RMNP promotion and tales of Long's Peak. We are grateful to many knowledgeable and talented individuals for bringing these treasures to light for our community.



THE NEXT GENERATION

YOUTH SERVICES

READING CAMP

The public library sponsored two week-long Rock and Read camps for emergent readers in grades 2-5. We promoted children's literacy and a love of learning through shared reading experiences with caring individuals. The reading camp enhanced children's self-esteem, helped them retain or improve reading skills, expanded their possibilities for success in school, and enabled adult volunteers to experience the rewards of enriching young lives.



"It was a great program, I loved the one-on-one reading time and my buddy said that was his favorite time, too." -Reading Camp Volunteer

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Our summer reading program runs from June through July and encourages children to read for fun over the summer as they maintain and improve their reading levels. It includes a variety of programs for the whole family such as storytimes, performances, book clubs and other constructive learning activities for children.

STATISTICS

Library Card Holders	11,421
Items Checked Out	231,807
Library Visits	204,387
Website Visits	227,270
Computer Commons Sessions.....	55,489
Library Archive Visits	765
Reference Requests	1,424
Programs Offered	820
Program Attendees	13,645
Volunteers	134
Volunteer Hours	5,278

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Sarah Walsh
Vice President: Amy Hamrick
Secretary: Sharon Poggenpohl
Treasurer: Ray Nieder

Trustees at Large:
 Jack Ford
 Peter Plaut
 John Kamprath

FRIENDS of the LIBRARY



The Friends of the Library committed \$38,000 in 2009 to help fund the digitization of the Library's Local History Archive. To support these donations, the Friends raised nearly \$43,000 from its annual used book sales in August and December. Friends' membership dues brought in an additional \$9,800.

The book sales wouldn't be possible without the community's generous donations of books and materials and the many Friends volunteers who work throughout the year to sort and move the donations. Because of his hard work and many hours of service, the Library honored Book Sale Chairperson Larry Edwards as the 2009 Library Volunteer of the Year.

The Friends Board hosted its annual membership potluck in October, which featured local author and mountain climber Lisa Foster. She discussed her book "Rocky Mountain National Park: The Complete Hiking Guide" and showed stunning images of her back country hikes in Rocky Mountain National Park.

2010 FRIENDS BOOK SALES

SUMMER SALE - AUGUST 6-8

The Annual Summer Used Sale will be held August 6-8, 2010. On the first day of the sale, Friends members have the first opportunity to purchase more than 40,000 used books, DVDs, audio books and children's materials.

PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE DECEMBER 3-4

The Pre-Christmas Used Book Sale will be held December 3 and 4, 2010. This sale features a nice selection of 3,500 lightly-used books ideal for holiday gifts.

09 FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENDITURES

Wages & Benefits	\$ 745,026	62%
Capital	\$ 55,850	5%
Operating Expenses	\$ 124,910	10%
Technology	\$ 44,877	4%
Facility	\$ 75,915	6%
Books, Materials & Programs	\$ 156,937	13%
TOTAL	\$1,203,515	100%

REVENUE

Tax Income	\$1,115,921	94%
Donations & Support Groups	\$ 49,916	4%
Interest, Charges, Fines	\$ 19,009	2%
TOTAL	\$1,184,846	100%