

A close-up photograph of numerous light-colored wood shavings, likely from a pencil, scattered across the frame. The shavings are in various orientations, some showing the sharp, pointed ends. The background is dark, making the light-colored shavings stand out.

ESTES VALLEY  
LIBRARY

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



Socrates said that an unexamined life is not worth living. We believe that as well. While our quest to serve you remains tireless, we can benefit from the value of your insights and perspectives. Are we matching the right resources and services to your needs? Where might we need to put more energy? What, if anything, might we be missing?

Of course, we are always glad to receive your comments. Putting them together to affect real change, however, can be challenging.

Because of this, we would like to invite your insights in a more purposeful form in 2012. We encourage you to participate in an on-line survey to help us serve you better.

As we **GATHER**  
your feedback, we can **LEARN**  
what you think, and continue to **GROW**  
to fit your needs.

Even better than helping improve your library, you can improve yourself. One lucky survey taker will win a

**FREE NOOK\***

Go to

**[www.evlibrarysurvey.org](http://www.evlibrarysurvey.org)**  
and let us know your thoughts!

Thank you for your time and participation.

*\*made possible by a special grant  
from the Friends of the Library*

Sincerely,  
CLAUDINE PERRAULT  
Library Director

# GATHER



One of our goals is to become a place where all community members come together to share ideas, knowledge, stories and camaraderie. In 2011 we accomplished that goal through many programs and events offered. Here are some highlights:

## ONE BOOK ONE VALLEY

Our inaugural One Book, One Valley was unveiled July 25th featuring *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson. Starting in September, events including an Opening Reception, Programs, Lectures, Scavenger Hunts, Hikes, Book Discussions and Movies spanned two months and drew almost 1,000 participants.



Book Club Bags led to the creation of a new monthly financial book discussion club.

Many readers found themselves intrigued enough by Bryson's book to launch into other new reading experiences. One participant was inspired to fulfill his lifelong dream of hiking the 486-mile Colorado Trail. Families had a chance to experience hiking together through guided hikes giving new perspective to familiar terrain.



## BOOK CLUB BAGS

Since last spring, thirteen new book bags containing discussion notes and a dozen copies of acclaimed titles like *The Lacuna* and *The Big Burn* have been used by book clubs around town.

## YOUNG READERS

Family programs and reading incentives for young people took place throughout 2011. The year saw the addition of music and movement classes, a week-long summer reading camp, and a traveling Mizel Museum exhibit at the Elementary School celebrating world cultures.

"Thank you very much for your time and energy here at the elementary school. What a cool exhibit! My students really enjoyed learning about the different cultures."

*Erin Wharton, 3rd grade teacher*



## ARMCHAIR ADVENTURE

Over twelve summer nights, 1,125 participants enjoyed the "Our Wonderful World" travel-adventure series with programs ranging from Longs Peak climbing to treks into Morocco and Nepal. Special thanks to National Park Village for the event space.

## ASTOUNDING STORIES

In March 2011, "Astounding Stories" was launched, featuring live dramatic storytelling for adults. The four-part series, with a Colorado history theme, drew a combined total of 172 attendees. Librarian and local actor Kurtis Kelly provided the voice to these special events.



## A BOOK LOVER'S DINNER

On September 18, nearly 200 guests enjoyed a delightful meal and talk with author John Shors at the Library Foundation's benefit dinner. 2011 was the 25th anniversary of the Library Foundation.

Now Contributing is easier than ever with the new online presence at [GivingFirst.org](http://GivingFirst.org)



Our unique and engaging programming in 2011 resulted in a **44%** increase in Adult Program Attendance

# LEARN

The Estes Valley Library is more than just a place for books and resources. Here is a sampling of opportunities created to help you learn in 2011.

## COMMON CENTS COUNTS

Amid challenging economic times, the Library's Common Cents Counts project, now in its second year, is helping our residents develop strategies to save more of their hard-earned dollars, build wealth, and gain security for their futures. We thank the FINRA Foundation for choosing our community as one of the special places to benefit from this tremendous opportunity.

The Common Cents Counts website was launched in August, offering a fun, educational and interactive approach to financial learning. No matter what your location, or what time of day, there's no longer an excuse for not improving your financial capability.

Visit us today on the new Common Cents tab at [estesvalleylibrary.org](http://estesvalleylibrary.org)

## TECHNOLOGY PETTING ZOOS

Nooks, iPads, Kindles and other "creatures" were brought together for a series of popular open houses to learn about new ways to enjoy reading. Watch for more opportunities to learn about eBooks and other innovations in 2012.



## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The library presents enrichment programs that demonstrate the importance of science in children's lives and motivate them to think critically and creatively. Our programs expand on the Park School District's curriculum. Hands-on or "minds-on" science engages and interests children, and makes them better problem solvers in other core academic disciplines.



"The best thing about the program was how engaging it was for my son."

*Participating Parent*



Participating college students couldn't believe the power of compounding interest. They made an appointment to better understand the concept. All resolved to start saving as soon as they got a job.

Two Year Results

262 Total Sessions and/or Presentations · 2,805 Participants  
52% Increase in Financial book Circulation

# GROW

We are continuing to grow in our resources, services, and as an essential part of the Estes Valley community. 2011 had some milestones and we are looking forward to exciting offerings in 2012.

## COMING IN 2012

### SELF CHECK-OUT

Our much needed automation upgrades in 2012 will free library staff from clerical tasks to provide more direct assistance to readers and researchers alike.

### EBOOKS

As technology changes, we want to continue to provide great reads to patrons for their iPads, Kindles and Nooks.



Expanding on our Common Cents Counts success, we are now offering special resources and services to job seekers, business owners, non-profits and investors.

### 2ND ANNUAL ONE BOOK, ONE VALLEY

On the heels of a first-year success, we are featuring another book for reading and discussion in 2012. **Cast your vote for this year's title on page 10 & 11!**

Find us on Facebook and look for upcoming events all year



The Friends of the Library exists to provide financial and volunteer support to the Estes Valley Library. In 2011, the Friends committed \$30,000 to fund the Adult Services Project, \$10,000 to fund the Audiobook Collection, and \$3,500 as a Volunteer Grant, for a total of \$43,500. To support these donations, the Friends raised over \$50,000 from the book sale in 2011 and have committed over \$70,000 to support library programs, eBooks, and the new collection in 2012.

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 and set up and work at the book sales.

The 2012 Friends annual **summer book sale will be held August 3-5, 2012**, at the Estes Park Conference Center at Rocky Mountain Park Inn. On the first day of the sale, Friends members have the opportunity to purchase more than 40,000 used books, DVDs, audiobooks, and children's materials.

The Pre-Holiday Used Book Sale will be held December 7 and 8, 2012 in the Library. This sale will feature a nice selection of 3,500 quality used books ideal for holiday gift-giving.

The Estes Valley Library Foundation endeavors to provide ongoing support for both capital improvements and ongoing projects of the Library. We believe that a community such as ours desires a place to gather, learn and grow for all. This is accomplished through participation in the strategic planning as well as in fund raising and managing both general donations and the Endowment funds. The earnings from the Endowment investments provide ongoing grants to the Library for significant upgrades.

Each year the Foundation holds a special dinner to provide recognition to our donors, volunteers and staff who together make the Estes Valley Library a premier resource for our entire community and visitors. In 2011, John Shors was our author/speaker as he shared his passion for writing and entertained with stories of his research in far off locations. Plans are currently in progress for our benefit dinner. Join us for a literary evening **Sunday, September 23rd.**

#### FOUNDATION FINANCIAL STATUS

	2011	2010
Endowment Investments	\$900,245	\$836,277
Dividends	\$28,379	\$27,127
Total Net Assets	\$1,008,426	\$927,229
Grants to Library	\$30,000	\$16,500

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## FINANCIAL REPORT

### EXPENDITURES

Wages & Benefits	\$ 741,706	61%
Capital	\$ 59,644	5%
Operating Expenses	\$ 108,920	9%
Technology	\$ 42,421	3%
Facility	\$ 82,701	7%
Books, Materials & Programs	\$ 183,870	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,219,262</b>	

### REVENUE

Tax Income	\$1,198,627	94%
Donations, Friends & Foundation	\$ 64,073	5%
Interest, Charges, Fines	\$ 16,291	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,278,991</b>	

## LIBRARY USE

Cardholders	10,954
Items Checked Out	206,477
Library Visits	196,165
Website Visits	236,979
Internet & Wireless Logins	44,600
Library Archive Visits	753
Reference Requests	1,221
Programs Offered	572
Program Attendees	15,090
Volunteers	109
Volunteer Hours	3,898

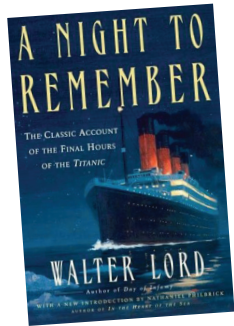
This fall's Second Annual One Book One Valley will offer another opportunity for the Estes Valley to share in a common reading experience, with discussions, live talks, storytellings, exhibits, and movies all built around a single theme. With so many great books to choose from, we'd like your advice on which book to select. The planning committee has narrowed it down to these four choices.

## CHOOSE THE NEXT ONE BOOK ONE VALLEY



ONE BOOK | ONE VALLEY

### A NIGHT TO REMEMBER ..... *by Walter Lord*



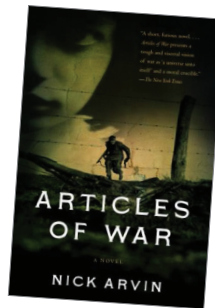
In 1912, the steamship Titanic sails towards New York, glittering with luxury, freighted with millionaires and hopefuls. After a sudden iceberg collision, the ship's 2,207 passengers face the crisis of a lifetime in a span of nine dramatic hours. Walter Lord's riveting masterpiece is as vivid and hauntingly beautiful now as it was when first published fifty years ago.

*Themes: Titanic 100th anniversary, American and European history, disasters, ships, travel.*

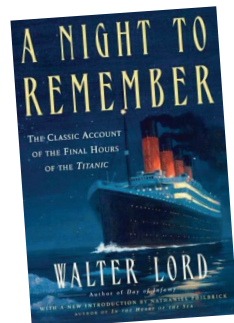
### ARTICLES OF WAR ..... *by Nick Arvin*

A young Iowa farm boy is drafted into World War II and shipped to France, setting in motion a gripping story as he marches through the hardships of war, chases his love for an elusive French girl named Claire, and faces one soldier's ultimate ethical dilemma. Builds to a surprising crescendo finish. **Winner of the American Academy of Arts and Letters Rosenthal Foundation Award.**

*Themes: World War II, history, heroism, fear, ethical dilemmas.*



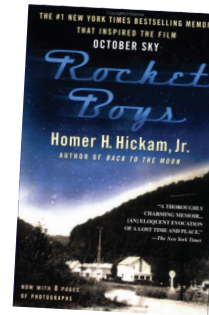
### DOC ..... *by Mary Doria Russell*



Doc Holliday, Dodge City, and the O.K. Corral are all blended inseparably in the alluring legends of the American West. Russell shines new light on this historic tale, creating a masterful and engaging novel the Washington Post calls "a deeply sympathetic, aggressively researched and wonderfully entertaining story". A national bestseller in 2011.

*Themes: the Old West, Reconstruction South, frontier history, justice and allegiance.*

### ROCKET BOYS ..... *by Homer H. Hickam, Jr.*



In 1957, fourteen-year-old Sonny watches Sputnik fly over his hometown and his life is changed forever. Wanting to be part of the space race, Sonny and his friends set out to learn as much as they can about launching rockets. Soon, these Rocket Boys enlist the help of everyone in town—blowing up some of Sonny's mother's best kitchenware in the process. **Inspired the movie October Sky.**

*Themes: astronomy and science, space flight, the 1950s, Cold War, West Virginia.*

## VOTE THROUGH MAY 4TH and enter to WIN!

Drop your ballot off at the Library  
OR  
vote online at [estesvalleylibrary.org](http://estesvalleylibrary.org)  
Please rank your favorites from 1 to 4, with 1 being your top choice.



- A Night to Remember
- Articles of War
- Doc
- Rocket Boys

Vote valid with your  
Estes Valley Library Card # 7522/ \_\_\_\_\_

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