



Aaron Geiman

Great Readers, Great Leaders

We are pleased to feature book recommendations by Aaron Geiman, Carroll County's 2011 Teacher of the Year.

Aaron's Bio

Born and raised in Carroll County, Geiman was very active in 4-H from age 8. His focus was on breeding, showing, and shearing sheep. His interest in sheep led him to organize breeding patterns for elite show stock. Geiman graduated from North Carroll High School in 1993. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science and Agriculture Education from Oklahoma State University and a Master's Degree in Career and Technical Education from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore. He began teaching at his alma mater in 1998. Intellectual, creative, and dedicated to problem-solving, Geiman is a leader in agricultural education in the state and the nation. He serves as the National Committee Chair for Public Policy for the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE).

As a member of Maryland Agricultural Teachers Association Executive Board, he is involved in legislative, curricular, and financial initiatives to improve agriculture in Maryland. Geiman is also the nation's first Master Teacher for the Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education, Animal Science. Geiman inspires and challenges his students to think about solutions to meet the demand of feeding 7+ billion people around the globe. In his Foundations of Technology class, students learn to tie mathematics, science, technology, and communications into agriculture. His precision agricultural simulation experiment, conducted on the school's football field, was selected by the NAAE as one of the top most innovative teaching ideas in the United States in 2008. Geiman's book recommendations reflect his wide-ranging intellectual curiosity.

Aaron's Reads

The Great Scientists: From Euclid to Stephen Hawking by John Farndon

The growth of the human race has been fostered, in part, by the intellectual advancements made by men and women throughout time. In this reader-friendly work, Farndon describes the most important and foundational scientists and their advancements, through thirty-five vignettes. It is undoubtedly an appropriate read for any young scientist or science history buff!

Tesla: Master of Lightning by Margaret Cheney and Robert Uth

"A man out of his time...." Nikola Tesla was one of the world's greatest electrical geniuses, whose theories and inventions continue to revolutionize electrical energy generation and consumption in the modern world. Cheney and Uth describe Tesla's life, from childhood through his death, including his work on alternating current electricity, wireless electricity transmission, and the bitter rivalry Tesla endured with Thomas Edison.

Dune by Frank Herbert

Set in a futuristic universe dominated by a sacred spice, *Dune* explores the social, economic, and metaphysical impacts created when spice production is halted by the environmental “rehabilitation” of Planet Arrakis, and the ascension of Paul Atreides to messianic status. As the first in a series of many, Herbert interprets traditional literary themes of society, government, religion, and humanity through a science-fiction lens that is as relevant today as when first published in the 1960s.

The Templars by Michael Haag

Following the First Crusade to liberate the Holy Land from Muslim control, a small group of French knights formed “The Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Christ and the Temple of Solomon,” the Templar. Since their inception on Christmas Day 1119, the Templars have been surrounded by controversy, including protecting sacred Abrahamic religious knowledge and involvement in clandestine orders, like the Free Masons. In this scholarly book, Haag explores the history of the order before, during, and after their demise, including a comprehensive literature review of all things Templar.

A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking

The esteemed astrophysicist Stephen Hawking describes the theories of the physical universe, and the history leading up to them, in this remarkably reader friendly work. Hawking vividly describes the workings of the universe from the Big Bang through the present, including the formation of stars and planets, the destruction of stars, and the formation of black holes.

Dead Sea Scrolls by John DeSalvo

A cornucopia of ancient texts found in the mountainous caves above the Dead Sea in 1957, the Dead Sea Scrolls have further enlightened the scientific community about the origins and evolution of Christianity. Included in the scrolls are early versions of the canonical gospels, apocryphal gospels, and texts for social functions and community banking. DeSalvo describes the history of the discovery, the research and translation of the scrolls, and the controversy surrounding the authorship of the scrolls.

Magnifico: The Brilliant Life and Violent Times of Lorenzo de' Medici by Miles J. Unger

Considered by many to be the father of the Italian Renaissance, Lorenzo de' Medici followed in his grandfather's footsteps to fund the artistic and intellectual explosion known as the Renaissance. Unger illustrates how Medici, through shrewd business practices and passion for the arts, facilitated the rise of greats, like da Vinci, Botticelli, and Michelangelo.

Holy Blood, Holy Grail by Michael Baigent, Henry Lincoln, and Richard Leigh

An immense controversy swirls around the assertion that Jesus Christ fathered children, thereby beginning a holy bloodline. To this day, church authorities express conflict about the validity of this proposition. The authors of *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* spent years researching the history of Christian doctrine, early Christian Era life, and historical documents to put forth their interpretation of the holy bloodline.

Connections by James Burke

One could describe the infiltration of technological advancements into society much like the spread of tree roots into the soil, finding and filling every gap where opportunities exist. In this companion book to the 1970s PBS/BBC series, Burke describes the growth of technology from prehistoric origins through the 1970s. Burke magically, and accurately, connects seemingly disparate aspects of life through the advancement of human technology.

