



# The Library Lookout

March 2003 Tel: 474-9072

## News From the Children's Librarian

Thank you to all who participated in the Winter Activities Program during February school vacation. With an average of 20 children a day, it was a fun filled week for all. Activities included glitter globes, polar plunge, hovercrafts, hand prints, homemade slime, dinosaurs, treasure hunt and games. With all the buzz around the library this week there was no time to be bored!

On March 8th we will be celebrating Plant a Flower Day. With the help of the Bloomfield Garden Club we will be offering a flower to each of the children who attend.

March is National Craft Month, and we will be offering Adult Craft Classes on Thursday nights from 5:30 to 7. Sign up will be necessary, please call the library or even better stop in. The schedule is as follows:

March 6 Stamping with Lucille Currier

March 13 Knitting and Felt Hatting Workshop

March 20 Scrapbooking with Jan Downing

March 27 Tole Painting with Linda Longley

Some supplies may be necessary, upon sign up you will be notified of which supplies you will need to bring with you. I hope to see many of you there, and Happy Crafting!

I have had many of you asking for my wish list, and after careful consideration I have come up with a plan. I would love for the FOL members to save a variety of items from your home. I found that the programming in February required many household items that I am sure many of us take for granted and throw out. If you could save empty spools of thread, styrofoam meat trays, film canisters, glass jelly jars, baby food jars, scraps of material and wallpaper. These items will be very helpful when providing science based programming or collages with the children. Thank you in advance for your ongoing support.

Visit Us on the Web at

[www.friendsofmainelibraries.org/organizations/fosfpl](http://www.friendsofmainelibraries.org/organizations/fosfpl)

## Library Director's Corner

I hope that we are beginning to see the signs of spring.

Ruth Blood and her geneology class are completing their first session. She has had a very enthusiastic group. They have been very appreciative of Ruth's effort. Thanks, Ruth.

Jim Foster and his computer group are still stumbling through the bits and bytes of the computer world.

The Key Bank staff have begun volunteering their services once a week to help us in any way they can. What a great help!

Skowhegan Free Public Library will be hosting the March 4th SPARKS meeting from 9:30 to 11:30 for the Cental Maine Library District. The topic for this meeting will be "Summer Reading Programs".

Tim Gould will be presenting "Hidden Treasure in the Attic" on April 24th from 7:00 to 9:00. Keep this date open since we always have a wonderful response for Tim.

## LATEST NEWS

### MARCH FRIENDS MEETING

Everyone has read in the papers about the Maine Learning Technology Initiative, a project sponsored by Governor Angus King to put a laptop computer into the hands of every seventh grade student in Maine.

At the Friends of the Library meeting on March 12th at 7:00 PM, you will have an opportunity to see the

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devices which have had a powerful impact on education for middle level students all across the state.

Our guest speaker will be Laura Richter, a technology integration teacher at Skowhegan Area Middle School. She and some of her students will demonstrate their Apple iBook computers and the ways that these exciting learning tools have opened up a whole new world to seventh graders.

A highlight of the presentation will be an overview of a local history project the students at Skowhegan Middle School are doing in conjunction with the Skowhegan History House. In this project students are scanning old photos and documents in the History House's collection and uploading them onto a website called the Maine Memory Network to make them available for students and researchers on the Internet.

Don't miss your chance to see how technology in the form of laptop computers has transformed education for children in Skowhegan and the state of Maine

## LITERACY TUTOR TRAINING WORKSHOP

Did you know that 20% of the adults in Maine have trouble reading? They cannot read the instructions on a medicine bottle, fill out a job application, read to their children, or curl up with a good book.

Literacy Volunteers of Franklin and Somerset Counties is a non profit, United Way funded organization which trains people to tutor anyone who needs help with their reading skills. This is done on a one-to-one basis, is confidential, and free.

LVFSC is holding a Tutor Training Workshop at the Skowhegan High School on March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, & 17, from 5 to 8 pm.

There is a \$15 fee for materials; however, we have scholarships available. There are many students in Somerset County waiting for tutors. If you are interested in turning someone's life around, please call 474-7553, or 628-5451. Also call us if you know someone who needs reading help.

## LIBRARY WEEK OPEN HOUSE

The Friends will be hosting a Library Week Open House from 11 to 2 on Saturday, April 12 at the Library. There will be a display of posters by SAD 54 elementary grade students. Plans are also underway for refreshments and entertainment, so volunteer help would be welcome. Please call Corrilla at 474-3949.

## A THANK YOU

Thanks go to Richard Tessier who has constructed more of those wooden number signs for the Garden Tour. We do appreciate his help!

## FUND RAISERS

Do you have favorite recipes that your families ask for frequently? Would you like to share them? Copy them out and deposit them in the box on the librarian's desk for the first ever Skowhegan Free Public Library Lover's Cookbook. It is planned to be ready by Thanksgiving.

The Library Brown Bag Lunch will be available to anyone who gets his or her order in by Thursday, April 17th, The lunch will be delivered on Friday, April 25th. Menus and order forms will be in the Library or at your workplace on April 14th. The fee of \$6.00 is payable in advance.

The Library Lawn Sale will be held at the Hastings' farm on Malbon Mills Road on Saturday, May 17th. We will have everything from books and clothing to dishes, old jewelry and electrical gadgetry, some old, some new. We also serve the best hotdogs in the whole six-miles of lawn sales that day. The Hastings' barn is open for donations now.

The Skowhegan Area Garden Tour and Art Show is scheduled for Saturday, June 28th. The tour will start from the Tewksbury Building, located behind the Federated Church on the Island. A silent or Chinese auction will take place at the same time. The tour is \$10.00 in advance or \$12.00 at the door. Lunch, by reservation only, is \$6.00.

*Trouble at Serenity Pond*, a mystery in three acts will be presented in October.

## NEWBORNS IN NEED HOLDS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Newborns In Need, Inc. Somerset County Chapter is celebrating their first birthday with an Open House in the Tewksbury Hall Building behind the Federated Church on the island, on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, from 7-9 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Their goal is to inform the public about who they are, what they do and why. They will be serging, sewing, knitting, and cutting out patterns, etc. for the babies. They will also be collecting essential baby items to put into Easter Baskets to give to local babies.

Their goal is to provide at least 20 baskets for Easter. Anything you could do to help is greatly appreciated. For more information go to [www.newbornsinneed.org/somerset](http://www.newbornsinneed.org/somerset).

## MEET A LIBRARY VOLUNTEER

As a registered nurse at Redington Fairview Hospital for thirty-four years, and a very active volunteer in many capacities, Dorothea (Dottie) LaCasse is no stranger to many Skowhegan residents.

You may see her working at the Food Cupboard, at a blood drive, or in the halls of the hospital. Many women have happy memories of having been a member of her Girl Scout troops; in fact, Dottie and her husband will be unloading and sorting Girl Scout cookies when the truck rolls into Skowhegan this month.

We are fortunate that this busy lady also gives hours of her time to the Skowhegan Free Public Library. She works at the desk when the staff is having its monthly lunch meeting, and she fills in where needed with other cataloging tasks.

In addition, Dottie is a member of the Friends of the Library Executive Board. She enjoys working on programs and fund raisers, and is always a willing and valuable participant at all events.

Dottie has lived in Skowhegan for over fifty years and resides on the East River Road with her husband, Gerald. They have three children and eight grandchildren, all of whom live in the area. Dottie names reading and attending basketball games as her main hobbies. She sometimes goes to as many as three games in one day to cheer on her grandchildren! We're lucky to have you, Dottie.

Thank you!

LIBRARY HOURS					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
10-6	10-6	10-6	10-7	10-6	10-2

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## Book Reviews

by Marcia Granville

If you like your mysteries mixed with a good sense of humor, You will enjoy Elizabeth Peters. She has written, among other things, a series advertised as: Mystery Among the Pyramids with Archaeologist/Sleuth Amelia Peabody. Amelia is (or was - she lived in the late 1800s ) a rare woman of her time. Not only did she travel to Egypt with a female companion, but she married archaeologist Radcliffe Emerson. She then accompanied him on all his digs among the tombs of ancient Egypt, advising, assisting and even arguing that she knew best. Detailed among her adventures are the rescue of a girl called, Nefret and the birth of her son, Walter Peabody Emerson, A.k.A. Ramses. Ms. Peters has kept her readers happy by producing a lengthy series including the following titles: *Crocodile on the Sandbank*, *The Curse of the Pharaohs*, *The Hippopotamus Pool*, *The Snake*, *the Crocodile and the Dog* and (my favorite title) *The Last Camel Died at Noon*.

*"I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into another room and read a book."* – Groucho Marx

## BECOME A FRIEND OF YOUR LIBRARY

The Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library, a not for profit group dedicated to supporting and improving the library for all members of the community, invite you to join us. Dues are \$10. individuals, \$8. Seniors & Students, and \$15. for families. We normally meet at the Library the second Wednesday of every other month, unless scheduling conflicts require another date. For more information, call Corilla Hastings (474-3949).

Please complete this form and mail to Kathy Hughes, 175 James Road, Cornville, Maine 04976.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 4 Trustees Meeting. Open to Public. 4:00 pm at the Library  
Computer Class IV: The Internet. 7:00 at the Library
- March 5 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
- March 6 Adult Craft Class Stamping with Lucille Carrier 5:30 at the Library
- March 8 Plant a Flower Day
- March 10 **Blynn Carrier's Birthday**
- March 11 Computer Class V: The Internet, continued. 7:00 at the Library
- March 12 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room  
Friends of the Library Meeting Program: Laptop Initiative, Laura Richter and students, 7:00 at the Library
- March 13 Adult Craft Class Knitting and Felt Hatting Workshop 5:30 at the Library
- March 18 Computer Class VI: File Formats and Multimedia. 7:00 at the Library
- March 19 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
- March 20 Adult Craft Class Scrapbooking with Jan Downing 5:30 at the Library
- March 26 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
- March 27 Adult Craft Class Tole Painting with Linda Longley 5:30 at the Library
- April 1 Trustees Meeting. Open to Public. 4:00 pm at the Library
- Coming up:
- April 12 Library Week Open House, 11-2 at the Library
- April 17 Library Lunch
- April 24 Tim Gould, Treasures From Your Attic, 7:00 pm at the Library
- May 5-10 Book Sale
- May 7 Friends Yard Sale at the Hastings'.



### The Library Lookout

Friends of the Skowhegan  
Free Public Library  
c/o Skowhegan Free Public Library  
Elm Street  
Skowhegan, ME 04978

#### Your Librarians Are:

Library Director Blynn Carrier,  
Assistant Librarian Françoise Labonte,  
Children's Librarian Katherine Connell,  
and Thelma Butler

#### Your Library Trustees Are:

Bill Lancy, Warren Shay,  
Mary Davies, Lee Granville,  
Toni Jo Blaisdell and  
Carol Jarvais

#### Friends Officers Are:

Corilla Hastings, Pres.;  
Jim Foster, V.P.,  
Marcia Granville, Sec.  
and Kathy Hughes, Treas.