



# THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT DECEMBER 2006

[www.skowheganlib.me.us](http://www.skowheganlib.me.us)

## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

Skowhegan begins December with the wonderful Holiday Parade on Friday night December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm. We hope many people will turn out to watch this wonderful event which promises to be the best parade ever. Keep an eye out for your favorite librarians and other elves walking in the parade. There is also Santa's workshop to check out.

On Saturday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> the Skowhegan Public Library will be offering a drop in craft time for children, milk and cookies, a used book sale with some gift quality books, as well as some festive gift baskets full of books and other goodies.

You could do some early shopping and pick up a good book to read for yourself as well. The holidays are a great time to share books with the special people on your holiday list. We are happy to help recommend good books that have proven "kid approval" as well as some of the classic stories that still delight children and young adults.

It's not too late to join the knitting group on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30-4:30 pm. If you would like to learn how to knit or just have fun knitting with a group please come by. Sherri Vigeau and Melissa Gaspar would love to teach any teens or adults who would like to learn how to knit. There is still time to make a gift for the holidays. We can show you how.

At this busy time of year I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy holiday season. Please take time to enjoy some of the simple pleasures of life, time with family and friends, traditional foods and activities, songs, candlelight and the age-old stories which mean so much to us. Peace to all, Melissa

## CHILDREN'S ROOM

The Holiday Stroll was very successful this year. About 50 people came to the library on Saturday Dec 2, to make some Christmas crafts, to listen to holiday music and enjoy refreshments. Every child who came was given a free book. We still have some holiday book baskets for sale. They make great gifts for that special someone who loves to read.

## SPECIAL EVENT

The Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library will present a three act play (with dessert) at the Skowhegan Area Middle School on Saturday, January 27th, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. (In case of a blizzard, the play will be held on Sunday, the 28th at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7.50 each.

By Marcia B. Granville

## The Trial of Pauline Mecker



### The Trial of Pauline Meeker

We have a stellar cast for our new play.

Pauline Meeker: Melissa Gaspar  
Judge, Katherine Crabbe: Maureen Calder  
Bailiff, Tom Crier: Iver Lofving  
Court Clerk, Dot Wright: Lauren Asselin  
D.A. Norma Nayler, Judith Gamage  
Defense Attorney, Fanny Freer: Darla Pickett  
Officer, Andrew Armstong: Butch Asselin  
Coronor, Dr. Charles Carver, Dave Stark  
Barmaid, Lola Plum: Midge Merrill  
Pauline's friend, Amy Friend: Jan Powers  
Drunken Witness: Jim Beamish, Dave Calder  
Innocent Bystander: Irene Standish, Mary Stuart

#### A Word About FOL Plays

By Lee Granville

A three act play in the "dinner theater" format has become an annual tradition in the Friends of the Library fund raising effort. For three consecutive years, Corrilla Hastings and Marcia Granville co-wrote murder mysteries with a setting in the fictitious village of Tranquility Falls Maine, a town strikingly similar to Skowhegan. The following year, Anna Freeman wrote and produced a library based page-turner called "The Trouble with books".

Last year, Marcia wrote "Trouble at Serenity Pond", a tale of ecological devastation and murder most foul. This years effort, "The Trial of Pauline Meeker", shows the seamy side of this fair community with an expanded cast of zany characters.

The plays have all been written in a broadly humorous vein with lots of give and take between the actors. The audience participates in the action in several ways and a good time is had by all. Be sure to get your tickets in advance as we expect another sell-out crowd this time around.

### New Books for Winter Enjoyment

#### Fiction:

Mitch Albom / *For One More Day*  
David Baldacci / *The Collectors*  
M.C. Beaton / *Love, Lies, and Liquor*  
Jan Burke / *Kidnapped*  
Terry Brooks / *Armageddon's Children*

Rita Mae Brown / *The Hounds and the Fury*  
Patricia Cornwall / *Book of the Dead*  
Sara Donati / *Queen of Swords*  
Julia Sencer Fleming / *All Mortal Flesh*  
Janet Fitch / *Paint it Black*  
Charles Frazier / *Thirteen Moons*  
Terry Goodkind / *Phantom*  
Tess Gerritsen / *The Mephisto Club*  
Mark Haddon / *A Spot of Bother*  
John Katzenback / *The Wrong Man*  
Stephen King / *Lisey's Story*  
Karleen Koen / *Dark Angels*  
Robert Ludlum / *The Bancroft Strategy*  
Eric Van Lustaber / *The Testament*  
Alexander Mccall Smith / *The Right Attitude*  
to Rain

Joyce Carol Oates / *Black Girl/White Girl*  
Rober Parker / *Hundred Dollar Baby*  
William Tapple / *Out Cold*  
Stuart Woods / *Short Straw*  
Kim Wozencraft / *The Devil's Backbone*

#### Non-Fiction:

Ron Clark / *The Essential 55*  
Francis Collins / *The Language of God*  
Frank Delaney / *Simple Courage : a true story*  
Daniel Gilbert / *Stumbling on Happiness*  
Cynthia Girling / *Skinny Streets*  
Sarah Helm / *A Life in Secrets*  
Charles Holmes / *The Little Book about Big*  
Success

(Charles Holmes is a graduate of Skowhegan)

Erik Larson / *The Devil in the White City*

Donald Spoto / *Enchantment: the life of Audrey Hepburn*

#### New and Renewed Memberships

David and Maureen Calder, Norman and Pat Dickey, Robert and Joan Farnsworth, Violet and Bruce Ferland, Paul and Kathy Hughes, Roger and Carol Jarvais, Charles Potratz, Phil and Maxine Russakoff, Dina Jeannotte and Joe Scozzafava, Gus and Jan Stringos, Susan Wheeler, and Peter and Barbara Whitkop

## BOOK REPORT

By Marcia Granville

*10 Pound Penalty* by Dick Francis

This is not the latest book by Dick Francis, but it is a good one. Young Benedict Juiliard is taking a year off to ride as a steeplechase jockey before starting college. Suddenly, the trainer for whom he rides fires him because of drugs. Ben is innocent, but that doesn't matter.

Instead of riding a very large animal at dangerous speeds, Ben is immersed in his father's campaign as George Juiliard runs for a seat in parliament.

What has seemed like a simple summer pastime amongst politicians, campaign managers and volunteers becomes an exercise in survival. Bullets, fire and automobile sabotage compete with slanderous news reports to complicate the lives of both Juliards.

One of the best things about this book is that the library has it on tape! I have a multitude of knitting projects to complete before the holidays and listening to this book has made the job more pleasant. Instead of driving myself crazy thinking of all I have to do and buy before Christmas while knitting, I thoroughly enjoyed listening to the unabridged book read by David Case in his wonderful English accent. He changes his voice to suit the characters and even manages to make the women sound believable.

If you have tasks that require both hands and too little thought, visit the library and chose a book or two on tape. They are guaranteed to make the jobs more fun and the time to go much faster.

## Other Media

Whatever your reading needs, the library can fulfill them. There are not only books in the stacks, there are also books on tape, books and on CD as well as magazines and newspapers. If you haven't the patience to read a book, you can listen while you wash dishes, iron clothes or sweep the floor.

Also, if that print seems to be getting smaller every year, you will be happy to find an extensive collection of large print books. The library has many of its own plus 20 on loan from the state library. You may not need a new pair of reading glasses after all!

## WANTED

Book Reviews: Anyone who has read a book and would like to tell us about it, whether it was good or bad, is welcome to send the review to Marcia Granville, P.O. Box 278, Skowhegan, Maine 04976 or, to [Marcia\\_granville@hotmail.com](mailto:Marcia_granville@hotmail.com). Or you could leave a book review at the library. Don't worry about spelling, etc. I can fix it.

## 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 for Individuals, \$8 for Seniors and Students, and \$15 for families.

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Please complete this form and mail to Skowhegan Free Public Library, 9 Elm Street, Skowhegan, Maine 04976.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the activities you are willing to help with.

- Refreshments for library activities.
- Making phone calls.
- Helping with fundraising activities.

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



# Calendar of Events

## December

**Every Wednesday** Story and Craft Hour, 10 a. m. in the Children's Room  
December 4 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.  
December 11 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room  
December 25 Christmas Day Library will be closed.

## January 2007

**Every Wednesday** Story and Craft Hour, 10 a. m. in the Children's Room  
January 1 New Year's Day Library will be closed.  
January 2 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.  
January 8 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room  
January 22 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room

**The Library Lookout**  
Friends of the Skowhegan  
Free Public Library  
c/o Marcia B. Granville  
P.O. Box 278  
Skowhegan, Maine 04976



**Your Librarians are:**  
Library Director, Melissa Gaspar,  
Assistant Librarian  
Françoise LaBonte,  
Children's Librarian,  
Katherine LeBlanc  
**Your Library Trustees are:**  
Bill Laney, Warren Shay,  
Lee Granville, Toni Jo Blaisdell,  
Carol Jarvis and Corilla Hastings  
Ex Officio, Maureen Calder  
**Friends officers are:**  
Maureen Calder, Pres.,  
Mary Stuart, Vice Pres.,  
Marilyn Renfrew, Sec.  
Sherry Vigue, Treas  
Marcia Granville, Editor

2007-May  
**James & Corilla Hastings**  
538 Malbon Mills Road  
Skowhegan, Maine 04976

2007 May

