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LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

The Skowhegan Community reads

Once Upon a Town by Bob Greene This month the Skowhegan Public Library in collaboration with the Margaret Chase Smith Library, Main Street Skowhegan, the Town, the area schools, and many other groups will sponsor a One Book/One Community Program. The purpose of this program is to bring the community together through the shared experience of reading the same book. The slogan of our event is "The Community that reads together, succeeds together." We have received a grant from the Maine Humanities Council to help us buy multiple copies of the book.

The kick off event will be **Gary Crocker, Maine humorist and inspirational speaker on Friday, March 23rd, 7 pm at the Skowhegan Area High School Auditorium.** This program is collaboration between the High School and the Community Read Program so tickets cost \$10 and all proceeds go to support the senior class. Free refreshments will be offered after the show. Gary is reading the book "Once Upon a Town" and will work the themes of the book into his humorous routines.

The next event is **Wednesday, March 28th from 1-3 pm at the Redington Home, Clara Gilbert will display her amazing quilt.** This quilt features pictures of the WWII European campaign and Pacific Island campaigns. The public is invited to share

THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT March 2007

some of their experiences or thoughts about that era, as well as, ideas from the book. Refreshments will be served.

On Thursday, March 29th at 6:30 pm there will be an Ice Cream Social at the Skowhegan Public Library. This is free and open to all ages. Free coloring books will be given out, and a video on making Maple Sugar will be shown. This is part of the Skowhegan Maple Sugar Week events.

On Wednesday, April 4th there will be two showings of the DVD, "Miracle at North Platte Canteen" 11 am and 6 pm at the library. Free popcorn will be served during the video which is a documentary based on the town featured in the book, "Once Upon a Town" More refreshments and a discussion will follow after the video.

On Monday, April 9th at 6 pm at the Margaret Chase Smith Library, Dr. David Richards will facilitate a book discussion group. Presently there is a special display at the Margaret Chase Smith Library featuring photos from WWII and the creation of NATO, The North Atlantic Treaty Organization. This evening will be a lively and thought provoking discussion on individuals, communities and social capital.

Mark your calendars for **Friday, April 13th which will be the Library's Bag Lunch Fundraiser.**

On Wednesday, April 18th Selectwoman Davida Barter will be our celebrity reader at story hour. This is sure to be an especially wonderful event.

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Friday, April 20th from 11am -2 pm there will be an April School Vacation Program for children at the Skowhegan Public Library. More information will be in next months Library Lookout.

Thursday, April 26th at 6 pm will be a wonderful book discussion with Larry Ross, a teacher at the Margaret Chase Smith School and originator of Crate Day. Refreshments will be served.

The last program will be on Friday April 27 from 5 -8pm, The Skowpendous Family Fun Day. This will take place in the municipal parking lot. We hope that you will participate by reading the book and attending some of the events we have planned. Or you can add your thoughts to our Community Read Blog at : www.skowheganlibrary.blogspot.com This promises to be a very exciting 5 weeks and we hope to make a difference in the community by reading together. You can check out your copy at the library or buy a copy at Mr. Paperback.

**From the Children's Library
By Katherine LeBlanc**

Judy Gamage has joined us as a volunteer reader at our Wednesday morning story and craft hour. As a member of the Friends of the Library, and former teacher, Judy brings us her years of experience working with children. Also, you may have recently caught her in the *Trial of Pauline Meeker*, the library play written by Marcia Granville. Welcome Judy, and thank you in advance for helping us at story hour. The children and parents already love you!

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

Breton, M.C.	<i>Death of a Maid,</i> a Hamish MacBeth mystery
Crombie, Deborah	<i>Water like a Stone</i>
Delinsky, Barbara	<i>Family Tree</i>

Gardner, Lisa	<i>Hide</i>
Garlock, Dorothy	<i>On Tall Pine Lake</i>
Greeley, Andrew M.	<i>Irish Linen,</i> a Nuala Anne McGrail novel

Isaacs, Susan	<i>Past Perfect</i>
Norman, Michael	<i>Commission</i>
Parker, Robert	<i>High Profile</i>
Patterson, James	<i>Step on a crack</i>
Robb, J.D.	<i>Innocent in Death</i>
Roberts, Nora	<i>Valley of Silence</i>

Schlessinger, Laura	<i>Proper Care and Feeding</i>
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	<i>of Marriage</i>
Smiley, Jane	<i>Ten Days in the Hills</i>
Steel, Danielle	<i>Sisters</i>
Trillin, Calvin	<i>About Alice</i>

NON FICTION

Chandler, Charlotte	<i>Ingrid</i>
Hamlin, Charles Eugene	<i>Life and Times of Hannibal Hamlin</i>

FUND RAISERS

The next FOL fundraiser is the Brown Bag Lunch. Orders need to be in by April 3rd. The lunches will be delivered on April 13th. We will need volunteers to take orders, make the lunches, bake the cookies, and deliver the lunches.

MAY LAWN SALE

Do you need something to do on these cold (brrrrr!) winter days? How about looking through your closets, your cupboards, under the bed, in the attic or the garage for things you don't need. Get a jump on spring cleaning and help the library at the same time! The Friends of the library will hold their annual lawn sale on or about May 19th this year. Box all those treasures up to take to the Hastings farm in May. For large items, call Corrilla at 474-3949.

RENEWALS

Shirley Bastien, Elizabeth and Brian Bisson, Elaine and George Cannell, Thomas and Margo

Carmine, Rhonda Daggett, Neola Davis, Sam and Patricia Horine, Amber and Mike Lambke, Alice Leavitt, Irene Magoon, Alex and Mardi Pakulski, Chris and Claire Perkins, Elton and Janet Powers, Joseph Quirion, Nancy Warren, Alton and Laurretta Whittemore

BOOK REVIEW

By Rhonda Daggett

The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss

It's a wonderful story about a little boy planting a carrot seed, hoping it will grow into a big carrot. The little boy hopes the carrot will grow carefully. It takes a lot of patience.

I read *The Carrot Seed* to a student at North Elementary School in Skowhegan, and he enjoyed it very much.

The Carrot Seed is an excellent book to read to kindergarten students.

(Note from the editor)

A good activity to go along with *The Carrot Seed* is to plant a miniature garden. If you have a small window box or other well-drained container, you might help your youngster plant a few carrot seeds. Children delight in watching things grow. They love to see the first feathery sprigs emerge from the soil and will pull up a few to see if they are carrots, yet. You will never have to thin the plants no matter how thickly planted!

If you cannot find any seeds at the stores, be patient. They will be in very soon. It's spring-time despite all the snow out there.

Children also like to watch cherry tomatoes grow. One small plant takes up very little room in the house or on the porch. (They prefer to be outside.)

If you are planting seeds inside, be sure to keep the container where it will get some light and don't over water it.

Who knows? Your youngster may even eat some of those despised vegetables if he or she grows them all by him or herself!

A couple of my grandchildren had window box gardens and enjoyed showing all their friends how their plants grew. They also enjoyed eating the fresh vegetables.!

BOOK REVIEW

By Marcia Granville

Heaven's Prisoners by James Lee Burke

The story centers around Dave Robichaud, a Vietnam veteran who has left the New Orleans police department. He is a recovering alcoholic who has found a new interest in life with his wife of one year.

Unfortunately, he and his wife witness a plane crash into the swamp, and life becomes very complicated thereafter. Dave has to contend with the likes of Bubba Rocque and his Cajun wife along with other nefarious characters.

I listened to this book on tape. It was read by Will Patton who does an excellent job with the dialects and accent of Louisiana folk. I'm going to look for more books by James Lee Burke.

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



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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.

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.

Calendar of Events

MARCH

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 a. m. in the Children's Room

March 6 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.

March 12 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room

March 23 Gary Crocker will introduce *Once upon a town* for the Community Reads program at the SAHS auditorium at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$10.00. Refreshments will be served.

March 26 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room

March 28 Showing of Clara Gilbert's memorial quilt at Redington Home from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

March 29 Ice Cream Social at the library at 6:30 p.m. Free to all as part of Maple Sugar Week

APRIL

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 a. m. in the Children's Room

April 3 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.

April 4 Showing of *Miracle at North Platte Canteen* 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the library, with popcorn and other refreshments

April 9 and 23 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room

April 9 Dr. David Richards will facilitate book discussion at Margaret Chase Smith Library at 6:00 p.m.

April 13 Library Brown Bag Lunch

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 Jarvais and Corrilla 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 & Corrilla Hastings

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