

The Library Lookout

January 2013

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Library Winter Hours: Mon.–Fri., 10–6, Sat., 10–2

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By your Director, Dale Jandreau

Here at the library, December has been one of our busiest months. We could have used some of Santa's elves to lend a hand (he's got them all booked up for this time of year, maybe in the summer). Thing got off with a bang with the Holiday Stroll. We offered a Christmas Bazaar, Book Sale, Magic Show and a guest speaker. We've had many meetings, a few programs, and even proctored a couple of tests. But best of all, was the Happy Holiday and Merry Christmas greetings we've received from our patrons. They're what make us tick. A special thanks to them for using and supporting the library.

As this year draws to a close and the new one begins; please take the time to think of others and help them if you can. We all know how many folks are having a difficult time during this poor economy, but are we trying to help? As a New Year's resolution; why don't we try to help even one person as we can this year. It could make a big difference in someone's life.

Until next month - Dale

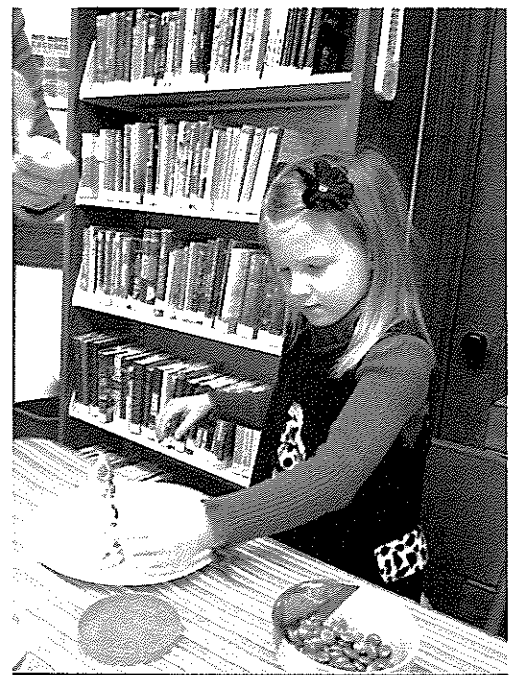
CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Angie Herrick

We have glittered, glued, painted, frosted, wrapped, and decorated everything we could get our hands on up here in the Children's library. The kids had a lot of fun coming in for the Christmas "Craft"ernoon. It was a pleasure to provide families with some holiday fun. The kids took home arm loads of homemade crafts and

goodies. We also had a great Gingerbread themed Family Story Hour. We found out that it only takes a little story to spark a kid's big imagination! We had gingerbread pirates, aliens, basketball players, and more!

But, the holidays are now behind us and it's time to get back to the routine of normalcy around here. Winter is such a great time to introduce your child to the library. It's cold out and there isn't as much to do outside with the kids, so take advantage of what fun we have to offer. We have all sorts of books, toys, games, puzzles, coloring pages, computers, DVDs, audiobooks, and family-friendly programming. We have Toddler Time for the little ones every 2nd and 4th Monday at 10:30, Story Time every Wednesday at 10:00, and Family Story Hour every 3rd Tuesday at 4:30. Saturdays are also a great time to bring the kids in to just explore and play.



Olivia Huff creates a Christmas decoration at the library "Craft"ernoon.

Meet a Volunteer
By Marcia B. Granville

Kathleen Provencher became ill and was unable to work for a time. Now that she is better, there are very few jobs available for a person with her particular skills. She attended a Grange meeting in Madison where a member told her about the Able National Volunteer Network. This organization helps place people in situations where they can learn skills necessary to join the work force full time. Kathleen called the network and was granted an interview at the Career Center in Skowhegan. An assessment of her interests and capabilities resulted in a short list of job training opportunities. The Skowhegan Free Public Library was on that list. Kathleen left applications at several places, but the library was the first to get back to her with an offer for employment. Shortly she received a call from Dale Jandreau, Director of the SFPL, asking her to come in for an interview.

First, Kathleen learned where everything is on the main floor of the library and is now becoming acquainted with the Children's Library upstairs. She has been shelving books as the borrowers return them. She is receiving hands-on-instruction on computer skills from Dale and from Assistant Librarian, Francoise LaBonte. As a result, she can now check books in and out for patrons.

When asked how she felt about her job to date she said, "I like it!!" Kathleen much prefers the hands-on-learning method as opposed to attending college classes. She finds the very idea of college intimidating. She hopes that she will learn enough computer skills during the four years allowed through the National Able Network to join the work force full time.

Dale has given Kathleen a tour of the library and explained the renovation plans that are bringing the building up to code regarding safety and handicap accessibility. She believes it is a good thing to save buildings that have a history and continue to use them rather than tearing them down and putting up a 'high rise'. "That's what they did where I lived before," she said. "That's why I don't live there any more."

NOTICE

The Renovation Committee would be glad to receive donations of knitting yarn and music CDs. Please leave items at the circulation desk. THANK YOU.

BOOK REVIEW

Titanic Tragedy by John Maxtone-Graham

A recently published non-fiction addition to the Skowhegan Library is John Maxtone-Graham's *Titanic Tragedy*, providing new insight into the transatlantic liner's sinking on its 1912 maiden voyage. While reviewing the shortcomings in the ship's design, and careless disregard for passenger safety by an experienced captain, the author describes the final two hours between the moment of collision and the sinking of the ship to the ocean's floor. Well written and a compelling read, this book will hold your interest. Jim Hastings

NEW BOOKS

Fiction

- Cannell, Stephen/ *Vigilante*
- Castillo, Linda/ *Pray for Silence*
- Castillo, Linda/ *Breaking Silence*
- Clancy, Tom/ *Locked on*
- Cook, Robin/ *Death Benefit*
- Cornwell, Patricia/ *Red Mist*
- Deveraux, Jude/ *Heartwishes*
- Hoag, Tami/ *Down the Darkest Road*
- James, P.D/ *Death Comes to Pemberley*
- Khoury, Raymond/ *Devil's Elixir*
- Koontz, Dean/ *77 Shadow Street*
- Robards, Karen/ *Sleepwalker*
- Stabenow, Dana/ *Thaw*
- White, Karen/ *Strangers on Montagu Street*
- Woods, Stuart/ *D.C Dead*
- Wright, Jason/ *Wedding Letters*

Non-Fiction

- Garner, James/ *Garner Files: a Memoir*
- Moorehead, Caroline/ *Train in Winter*

"RETURNABLES for the RENOVATION"

Please recycle your holiday bottles and cans at either EMTEEZ or The Beverage Mart, and ask that the money be retained for the library. (If you prefer, just turn the money in to Francoise at the front desk.)

TIME FOR THANKS!

Generous holiday giving comes to our library all year long! As we begin the new year, it's time to say THANK YOU! The support for the library renovation from area businesses, service clubs, individuals, and tireless volunteers continues to thrive. Our many 2012 fundraisers have included a Lawn Sale, Paddle Art Auction, Golf Tournament, Book Sales, Luck-of-the-Draw Auction, and many more. During December, the Christmas Bazaar brought a total of \$1,600. Responses to our annual appeal letter to patrons and friends are still being received. Bottle Recycling refunds for the last four years have totaled \$1,641.22. Every donation, big or small, brings us nearer our goal for the library renovation.

In addition to this wonderful local support, we have just recently been fortunate to have received several grants and special gifts: Community Development Block Grant (\$35,472), Maine Charity Foundation (\$3,500), Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust (\$5,000), Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust (\$5,000), and Skowhegan Savings Bank (\$20,000).

On your next visit to the library, ask Dale to give you the "grand tour" to view all the work that has been accomplished, and learn what will be included in the next phase of construction! You'll be pleased to see what your generosity has contributed to the library.

WISH LIST for Children's Area

- Clear contact paper
- Cardstock
- Children's DVDs

NEW FOL MEMBERS

- Lance and Cecilia Bolduc
- Dan and Maureen Davis



Eunice Thorp and Judy Bowzer decorate the library tree at Redington Memorial Home with handmade bookmarks

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

9 Elm Street

Skowhegan, ME 04976

Your librarians:

Library Director Dale Jandreau
Children's Librarian Angie Herrick
Assistant Librarian Francoise LaBonte

Your Library Trustees:

Toni Jo Blaisdell,
Lee Granville, Corrilla Hastings
Carol Jarvais, Sara McCabe
Lynn Perry, Warren Shay
Ex Officio: FOL Chair

Friends officers:

Co Chairs: Margo Reid, Kathy Evans, Jeanne Shay
Peggy Lovejoy, vice pres.,
Margo Reid, sec. Kathleen Littlefield, treas.

Calendar of Events

Story Time: Every Wednesday, 10 AM

JANUARY

Jan. 1 Library closed. Happy New Year!

Jan. 8 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 PM

Jan. 9 Library Renovation Meeting, 6 PM

Jan. 9 Transition Skowhegan, Cooperative Extension Office, 7 PM, "Bookkeeping with Dick Tessier"

Jan. 10 Friends of Library Executive Board meeting, 6 PM

Jan. 12 Socrates Café, "What is the Philosophy of Crime and Punishment", 11 to 1.

Jan. 14 & 28 Toddler Time, 10:30

Jan. 15 Family Story Hour, Circus Time!, 4:30

Jan. 17 Jazz Concert

Jan. 21 Library closed for Martin Luther King Day

FEBRUARY

Feb. 2 Valentine's Day "Craft-ernoon", 11 to 1

Feb. 5 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 PM

Feb. 9 Socrates Café, "Reaction to Adversity: What do you do when things don't go your way", 11 to 1

Feb. 11 & 25 Toddler Time, 10:30

Feb. 13 Library Renovation Committee Meeting, 6 PM

Feb. 13 Transition Skowhegan, Cooperative Extension Office, 7 PM, "Bug Out Bags"

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day Crafts and Bake Sale, 10 to 4

Feb. 19 Family Story Hour, Pirate Night, 4:30

Feb. 21 L.C. Bates presents: BIRDS! 10:30 to 11:45 (We will also be making bird feeders.)

Feb. 22 Bingo for Books, 2 to 3 PM