



<http://www.skowhegan.lib.me.us>

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

A Heart full of Gratitude for your support to the Skowhegan Public Library

I would like to thank all of the ladies from the GFWC/Women's Club, GFWC Dove Society and the GFWC/Semper Fidelis for a most enjoyable sing-your-heart-out Valentine's Day event at the Strand Theater on Feb 14th. The Mama Mia! Sing-along was a huge success and it was a joy to hear everyone singing along with the movie. Many thanks to John Moore for letting us use the Strand Theater for the event and to The Bankery who donated the wedding cakes so that the "guests" could take a piece home with them. Thank you to the Blueberry Cupboard for helping us sell tickets.

I also would like to thank Hannaford's for donating the plastic containers for the cake and for helping with an earlier library event by donating a gift card. Furthermore, Hannaford's is sponsoring the library throughout the month of March. Just bring your returnable bottles and cans to Hannaford's and either let them know you are donating to the library or drop your receipt into the kiosk in the lobby. All funds received in March will go to the Library Renovation Project 2012.

Many thanks to the Skowhegan Madison Elks for cooking up and serving a delicious spaghetti dinner on Sunday Feb 21st to help raise money for the library renovation. The food was delicious and I would like to thank everyone who helped out or attended. Congratulations to Janet Washburn who won the door prize.

The Library Lookout

March 2010

I would also like to thank members of the Renovation Committee and community members who organized the "Pony Club Tragedy" dinner theater written by Marcia Granville. The three events in February raised over \$2000. Every effort is much appreciated and brings us closer to our goal for making the library accessible and safe for all.

The Library Renovation Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6pm at the library and is the energetic driving force behind the Library Renovation Project 2012. This group has been organizing fundraisers such as the "Evening with the Stars", the Longaberger Basket Raffle, and an Antiques Appraisal Fair. More recently, the group helped with the "Pony Club Tragedy" Dinner Theater. New members are welcome. If you would like to help the library but are not sure how, the Library Renovation Committee is a great place to begin. FMI call Melissa at 474-9072.

The Library Friends Board Meeting will be on Thursday, March 4th at 6pm at the Skowhegan Public Library. If you have an interest in libraries and would like to join a friendly group that supports the library and its mission, please join the library Friends.

Don't forget the Knitting Group meets every Friday from 4-6pm. All are welcome.

Come one and all to the Ice Cream Social at the Skowhegan Public Library on Saturday, March 20th from 12:30-2pm. Free Ice Cream Sundaes with Maple Syrup toppings. There will be a candy making demonstration by Kathy Hopkins from the County Extension Office and an appearance by the Maple Sugar Princesses. Thank you to Gifford's for donating the ice cream.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Katherine LeBlanc

The inventory in the children's room is going along rather smoothly. I find that this has been a real eye opener to reacquainting myself with the collection. I have been able to weed a few books and move books to make more room for additions to the collection.

We have been very lucky recently with several donations of fiction books. Although we were unable to order until the first of February, I think we were able to keep the selection fresh for the kids and adults who visit the Children's Room.

Story Hour is still growing! We are very lucky to have new families coming each week, and even luckier that we are retaining all the families that love Story and Craft hour so much. Please feel free to pass the word and invite anyone you feel may benefit from this wonderful free program. The more the merrier. Just remember: Wednesday mornings at 10AM.

Toddler Time is also growing. Scheduled on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 10:30, we have been very lucky to collaborate with KVCAP. Each child receives a FREE book to take home. The finger plays and songs are very exciting and it is just a beginning in teaching the children to love their library.

Our Face Book is up and running. If you are a member please become a fan. It is a great way to keep up to date with all the latest events at the library. It is also a great way to keep in touch with your librarian. Input is welcome. Please become a FAN!

NOTE:

The library will be closed on Friday March 26th while the new Destiny Automated System is installed. We thank you for your patience while we migrate our collection to an online system. More about Destiny in the next Library Lookout.

NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS

Virginia Jordan
Ruth Blood
Irene Magoon

NEW BOOKS

- Balogh, Mary/ *A Matter of Class*
- Beaton, M.C./ *Death of a Valentine*
- Coonts, Stephen/ *The Discipline*
- Cornwell, Bernard/ *The Burning Land*
- Crais, Robert/ *The First Rule*
- Delinsky, Barbara/ *Not my Daughter*
- Garwood, Julie/ *Sizzle*
- Godwin, Gail/ *Unfinished Desires*
- Higgins, Jack/ *The Wolf at the Door*
- Hoag, Tami/ *Deeper than Dead*
- Hooper, Kay/ *Blood Ties*
- Lescroart, John/ *Treasure Hunt*
- McCall Smith, Alexander/ *The Unbearable Lightness of Scones*
- McCullough, Colleen/ *Too Many Murders*
- Oates, Joyce Carol/ *A Fair Maiden*
- Preston, Douglas/ *Impact*
- Tyler, Anne/ *Noah's Compass*
- Wambaugh, Joseph/ *Hollywood Moon*

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

BOOK REVIEW

By Ellen Richmond
Children's Book Cellar

Hot Rod Hamster by Cynthia Lord

Maine author and Newbury Honoree (for her novel, *Rules*), Cynthia Lord, has just published *Hot Rod Hamster*, a lively picture book ideal for 3 to 8 year olds. It has lots of boy appeal; but, the girls at a recent school visit were equally entranced by the hamster "with a need for speed".

Derek Anderson's (*Little Quack*) illustrations are colorful and full of fun. It's a perfect read aloud because there's lots of opportunity for reader participation. All through the story, they are asked, "Which would you choose?"

Hamster decides to enter as soon as he reads the sign, "Hot Rod Race." He needs a car though. So, with help from his friends at the junk yard, he creates his dream car. As Hamster's hot rod takes shape, readers are shown choices. Will they pick the same ones that Hamster chooses? Finally, his special car is ready; he puts on his helmet, and rolls up to the starting line where all the other drivers make fun of him and his tiny car. But, being little isn't a disadvantage when there's a traffic jam on the track. Hamster races *under* the other cars and on to victory. Now, which trophy will he choose? ALL OF THEM, OF COURSE!!

Circus Ship by Chris Van Dusen

When a circus ship heading to Boston sinks in a terrible storm, the animals are abandoned by the villainous circus owner. They swim to safety on a small island off the coast of Maine. At first, the people on the island are frightened of the animals in their midst, but the animals prove to be friendly. So, soon the animals and islanders are living contentedly together. When Mr. Paine, the greedy circus owner, comes to the island demanding that his animals be returned to him, the villagers find a way to protect their new friends. In a wonderful two-page spread, all fifteen circus animals hide in the island landscape for eagle-eyed readers to spot. Mr. Paine, however, can't find any of his animals. As he leaves the island, islanders and

animals watch from the shore as he sails away in a fury.

Circus Ship was inspired by the real story of a circus ship that sank off Maine in the 1800s. That ship was lost off Vinalhaven and the animals all perished, though there were rumors of strange animals prowling some of the nearby islands for years afterward. This book has a much happier ending.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWS

Plans for two spring fundraisers are underway. **Volunteers needed!**

Library Lunches will be delivered on Friday, April 16 this year. We need volunteers to take orders for, prepare and deliver these tasty treats. We also urge you to put in your own order for a lunch that will be delivered to the library on the day of the sale. Order forms will be at the library desk beginning the last week of March.

The annual Lawn Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 22. As you clean out those closets, attics and garages, please keep your library in mind. Saleable items of any kind are welcome. Small "treasures" may be left at the library, or bigger ones may be brought to Hastings' barn on Malbons Mills Road. (please call first, 474-3949) We'll need volunteers for pricing, selling and clean -up for this event.

If you would like to volunteer for either of these fundraisers, please leave your name at the library and someone will get in touch with you. THANK YOU!

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



**Skowhegan
Savings**

The Library Lookout

9 Elm Street

Skowhegan, ME 04976

Your librarians:

Library Director Melissa Gaspar
Assistant Librarian Francoise LaBonte
Children's Librarian Katherine LeBlanc

Your Library Trustees:

Bill Laney, Warren Shay,
Lee Granville, Toni Jo Blaisdell,
Carol Jarvais, Corrilla Hastings
Ex Officio, Mary Hill

Friends officers:

Mary Hill, pres.
Darla Pickett, vice pres.,
Kathy Littlefield, sec. Sherri Vigue, treas.

Calendar of Events

Every Wednesday, Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM
Every Friday, Knitting Club for all levels and beginners, 4 to 6 PM

MARCH

March 2 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
March 3 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
March 4 Friends of the library Executive Board meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
March 8 & 22 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM
March 13 Socrates Café, "Human Nature", 11 AM to 1 PM.
March 17 Book Discussion group for 4th, 5th and 6th graders, 3:15 PM
March 20 Ice Cream Social, 12:30 to 2 PM.
March 26 Library is closed for installation of Automated System.

APRIL

April 6 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
April 7 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
April 12 & 26 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM.