



The Library Lookout

DECEMBER 2009

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

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

The Spectacular "Evening with the Stars~American Style!" Dance event dazzled, sparkled and had everyone clapping and cheering. The star-studded cast was an inspiration and the men in tuxes received a standing ovation for their fancy footwork to "New York, New York". Many thanks to all of the wonderful dancers, Elvis, Minnie Pearl and those who helped to set up and run the show. Thanks so much to Pat Dickey and Duane Burbank for their witty introductions, and I would especially like to thank Judy Gamage and Darla Pickett for having the vision for this production and working all year long to create such a fun-filled meaningful community event. And for those who are wondering, we raised \$6,300 for Project 2012.

I would also like to thank the Friends of the Library who have pledged \$3000 to Project 2012 and also donated all of the proceeds of their refreshment sales to the Library Renovation. The Friends have supported the library for over 11 years. Another exciting gift from the Friends is the purchase of a new library automated system called Destiny. We hope to have that up and running in January 2010 and you will be hearing more about it soon.

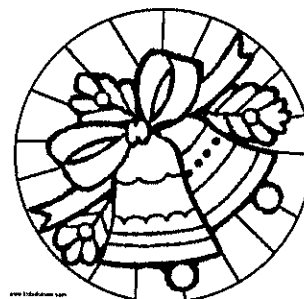
Our next big program will be the Holiday Stroll event on Sat. Dec 5, from 10am-2pm at the library. Upstairs, children of all ages through Grade 12 may pick out a free book from a large selection donated by Kristine

Rinaldi. There will also be free cookies and milk available. Downstairs, the Friends of the Library will be having a Gently Used book sale. It is a great time to find the perfect book for all those people on your list who love to read. The Bloomfield Garden Club will have an ornament sale in the library lobby to help raise money for the renovation. And check out the beautiful tree on display from Corbin Academy.

Recently, the Lions Club displayed the Peace Posters created by Middle School students. The theme for this year is the Power of Peace.

And just a reminder to those of you who like to knit or would like to learn to knit. The library hosts a knitting group every Friday afternoon from 4pm-6pm. Come enjoy the friendship and fun of a friendly knitting circle.

However you celebrate the holidays, it is a wonderful time of year to draw close to family and friends, reach out to neighbors and those in need and send out thoughts of Peace on Earth, goodwill to all. I would like to wish you all a happy healthy loving joyful holiday season. ~Melissa M. Gaspar



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CHILDREN'S ROOM

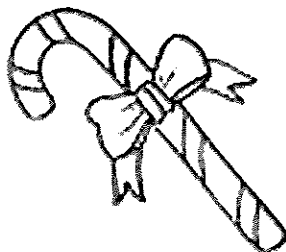
By Katherine LeBlanc

The Children's Room has been celebrating the holidays with fun filled stories and crafts during our weekly Wednesday story hour. Our wonderful volunteers have come up with some ingenious crafts for Halloween and Thanksgiving and I am sure the December celebrations will not be any different. Story hour is cancelled the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and Christmas as historically many families are traveling or volunteering in the local schools.

We have had quite a few donations of young adult chapter books in recent months. It is heartwarming to see the generosity of this community when it comes to donations to the library.

I attended the Evening with the Stars and I have to say what a fabulous job Producer Judy Gamage and Co -producer Darla Pickett did in bringing all of the wonderful talent together this year. Emcees Patricia Dickey and Duane Burbank were very funny and gave the crowd a wonderful sense of belonging during the program. The shout out to Veterans was a wonderful way to pay tribute to those in the audience who have served in the armed services. What a gracious gesture!

Thanks to everyone who made this year such a wonderful year at the Skowhegan Free Public Library!



FOL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

At the November FOL Executive Board meeting a pledge of \$3000 over 3 years for the Library Renovation Project was approved. Plans for the cookie and cold drink sale at the Evening with the Stars production were finalized and it was decided to donate the proceeds to the Renovation fund.

The Friends will have a "new" used book sale at the Holiday Stroll on Dec. 5th from 10am to 2pm at the library.

A request for the transfer of \$300 previously allocated for a new desk to the purchase of a new DVD carousel for the children's room was approved (a suitable desk was found in the basement!) Melissa spoke of the urgent need for a new automated computer system and of the advantages of quick action in order to join the schools and switch to the same provider, a move that will save money and benefit students and patrons alike. \$2000 was approved for this request.

The next meeting will be Jan. 7, 2010.

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 Rhonda Daggett

Hannah's Dream

A novel by Diane Hammond

Hannah's Dream is a wonderful book to read. It's a wonderful story about an elephant named Hannah and her caretaker named Samson Brown. There are lots of characters in this book. One of my favorite characters in the book is a villain with a pith helmet named Harriet Saul who transforms herself as Maxine L. Biedelman who wants Hannah to be the star attraction at the Max Biedelman Zoo.

If Diane Hammond rings a familiar bell to you, she was also the media liaison and spokesperson for the Free Willy Keiko Foundation. Diane Hammond has also written other novels, such as *Going to Bend* and *Homesick Creek*.

I enjoyed reading *Hannah's Dream* and I think it's a "must read"

. Enjoy the book!

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

- Margo and Will Reid
- Vi Ferland
- Pat and Norm Dickey
- Carol and Roger Jarvais
- Elinor Clark
- Pam and Dave McDermott

NOTE: Some people have forgotten when their membership is due for renewal. Check the date above your mailing label. If still in doubt, please call Marcia at 474-7207.

THANK YOU!

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

- Baldacci, David/ *True Blue*
- Chiaverini, Jennifer/ *A Quilter's Holiday*
- Brown, Sandra/ *Rainwater*
- Fluke, Joann/ *Plum Pudding Murder*
- Goudge, Eileen/ *Once in a Blue Moon*
- Grisham, John/ *Ford County*
- Hart, Carolyn/ *Merry, Merry Ghost*
- Howard, Linda/ *Ice*
- Jacobs, Kate/ *Knit the Season*
- Kava, Alex/ *Black Friday*
- Keillor, Garrison/ *A Christmas Blizzard*
- King, Stephen/ *Under the Dome*
- Medlicott, Joan/ *A Blue and Gray Christmas*
- Miller, Linda Lael/ *A Creed Country Christmas*
- Page, Katherine Hall/ *The Body in the Sleigh*
- Perry, Anne/ *A Christmas Promise*
- Robb, J.D./ *Kindred in Death*
- Roberts, Nora/ *Bed of Roses*
- Shaara, Jeff/ *No Less than Victory*

NON-FICTION

- Prose, Francine/ *Anne Frank*
- Spoto Donald/ *High Society*

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HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA

Need a gift suggestion? How about a donation to Project 2012 in honor of your friend or relative?

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

DECEMBER

Every Wednesday except the 23rd and 30th: Story & Craft Hour, 10AM
December 1 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome
December 2 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
December 5 Holiday Stroll at the Library, 10AM – 2PM
December 14 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM
Library will be closed December 24, 25 and 26. Closing at 4PM on Dec. 31.

JANUARY

Library will be closed January 1 & 2
Every Wednesday: Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM
January 5 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
January 6 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
January 7 Friends of the Library Executive Board meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
January 9 Socrates Café, 11AM -1PM.
January 11 & 25 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM