



THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT May 2007

www.skowheganlib.me.us

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

If you have been by the library lately you may have noticed the staging out front and on the side of the building. The brickwork in underway! The front façade needed to be taken down to the top of the first floor windows due to water damage over the years. The masons are now in the process of building the wall back up. The company doing the work is Drake Masonry and it is estimated that the project will be completed by the end of June.



Our 'facelift' is happening at last!

As you can see, the 'bandages' are still on. but the library is still open for business. Come on in and see.

The library has received a grant of \$3000. from the Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust to help pay for the work, and the town has supported the library through its operating budget. In addition, the Friends group has done several fundraisers to help pay for the brickwork. Many thanks to each of these organizations and the community for

their support and patience during the construction.

The library will remain open during the construction so please come in and see some of the new books we have received.

I would also like to thank the community and everyone who participated in the Skowhegan Area Community Read program. From the Gary Crocker event to the Skowpendous Event we have had a lot of interest in the book and the ideas that it embodied. Simply put, the book demonstrated how a community that worked together to show its support and care of others impacted lives in ways that they could never have imagined.

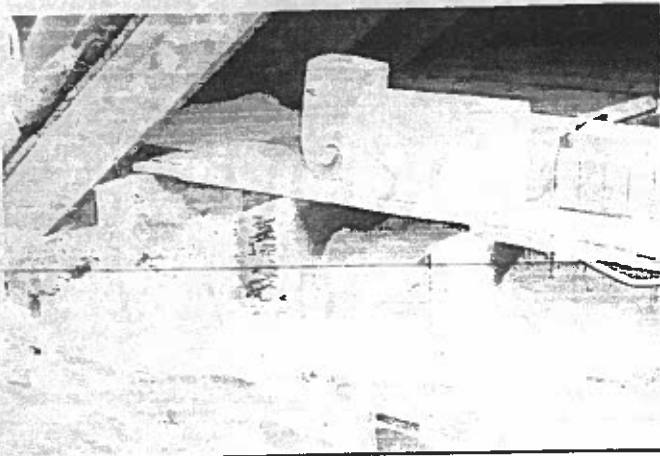
I hope that we have all been inspired to help others and give something back to our community. It was interesting to listen to people's comments on the book and hear their stories. One person said they had not been reading lately, but the book made them want to go back to reading and shut off the TV.

If you have not received your community read library magnet, come by and pick one up. They are going fast and we only had 1000 to give away. The magnets and the books for the community read were paid for by a grant from the Maine Humanities Council.

Even though the community read is now over, there are a lot of other exciting programs coming up at the library. Ruth Blood will be teaching a genealogy class on Wednesdays from 3 pm-5 pm beginning May 2 and continuing for 6 weeks. If you are interested please call the library at 474-9072.

CHILDREN, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS !

Mother's Day card making craft event. Saturday May 12, 2007 from 11:00 to 1:00. Make a card for someone special with presenter Sherri Thompson. Perfect for Mother's Day. All ages welcome.



The area behind the bricks was in sad shape, but Drake Masonry is repairing the damage that has occurred over the 118 years since the library was built.

COMING EVENTS

Annual Friends of the Library Meeting

7:00 p.m. in the reading room

There will be a short business meeting with music before and after, featuring Harry Vayo on the dulcimer. Following the meeting there will refreshments of cheese and crackers, fruit, wine, juice and water.

Here is your chance to see what the FOL Executive Board has been up to since last May. It is also an opportunity to stroll through the library and see all the wonderful new books in every department.

Please come, bring a friend and enjoy an evening of excellent music, good companionship and food.

ABOUT THE ENTERTAINMENT

Harry Vayo has developed a unique playing style, with a particularly strong emphasis on harmony, which he applies to a wide variety of music. Celtic tunes are a favorite, from wistful airs to lively reels to rambunctious jigs; but Beatles' songs, Chinese and Japanese tunes, a Cajun foot-stomper, and even an occasional classical piece are likely to show up in his performances.

Harry performs at coffeehouses, church services, benefit concerts, festivals, and other venues throughout central Maine. When not playing his dulcimer, Harry teaches high school science in Oakland, Maine. He will have CD's of his music for sale at the meeting.

LIBRARY YARD SALE

We will have our annual lawn sale in conjunction with the Cornville Six-Mile-Sale again this year. Volunteers will be needed (a few hours or all day) to help with the sale on **MAY 19th**. Anyone who can help with pricing, prior to the sale, can score a few early bargains. The Hastings barn is now open for sale items. Please call before delivery 474-3949. Arrangements can be made to pick up bulky items by calling Maureen Calder or the library.

Also, members of the Friends of the Library are encouraged to attend the Town Meeting in June. There will be a vote on the budget for the library.

SUMMER HOURS

The library will go to summer hours the first week of June. Please check the front desk for details.

NEW RELEASES MAY 2007

FICTION:

Cannell, Dorothy	<i>Whitering Heights</i>
Clark, Mary Higgins	<i>I Heard That Song Before</i>
Coben, Harlan	<i>The Woods</i>
Fielding, Joy	<i>Heartstopper</i>
Graham, Heather	<i>The Dead Room</i>
Hart, Carolyn C.	<i>Set Sail for Murder</i>
Hill, Joe	<i>Heart-shaped Box</i>
Kellerman, Jonathan	<i>Obsession</i>
LaHaye, Tim F.	<i>Kingdom Come</i>
McCall Smith Alexander	<i>The Good Husband of Z e b r a</i>

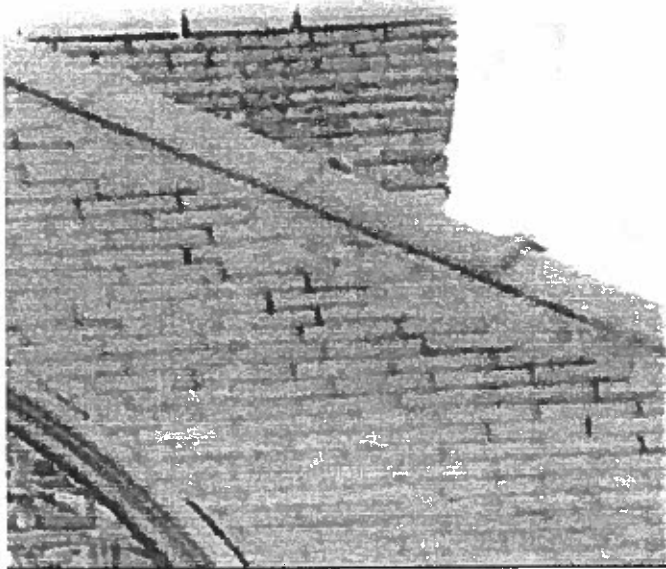
Drive

Perry, Anne	<i>We Shall Not Sleep</i>
Robards, Karen	<i>Obsession</i>
Woods, Stuart	<i>Fresh Disasters</i>

NON-FICTION:

Cohen, William	<i>Love in Black and White</i>
Preston, Richard	<i>The Wild Trees</i>
Rodriguez, Deborah	<i>Kabul Beauty School</i>
Wiseman, Rosalind	<i>Queen Bees & Wanna</i>

bes



As you can see, it was not just the façade of the library that is missing some grout. The capstones on the chimney are just sitting there with spaces between. There are also areas under the eaves on either side of the building that need attention.

Gerry Drake's crew will work on these when the façade is completed.

BOOK REVIEW

By Marcia B. Granville

Barack Obama is a rising star in politics. He is young, ambitious, articulate and relatively unknown. Some of the older politicians have said they don't know what he stands for.

If there is any question in your mind on where Mr. Obama stands, read his book, *The Audacity of Hope*, subtitled *Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream*. He has carefully outlined his thoughts in nine comprehensive chapters. He talks about the Constitution, values, family, opportunity, faith and race. Each subject is thoughtfully examined in straightforward terms. Government policies and their results are cited without malice.

As Mike Dorning of the *Chicago Tribune* says, *The Audacity of Hope* offers readers—and voters across the nation— an upbeat view of the country's potential and a political biography that concentrates on the Senator's core values while providing a broad sense of how he would handle the great issues of the moment."

LIBRARY LUNCH

The lunch was a great success despite the snow storm. We sold 217 lunches and delivered them all thanks to the diligence of the crew of volunteers.

There was the little matter of schools and a couple of businesses being closed due to the storm. A few sandwiches were delivered on Saturday. The teachers received their lunches two weeks later, after school vacation, in the form of pizza with all the usual accompaniments of apples, chips, drinks and desserts.

There were too many volunteers to list here, but special thanks go to the Jim and Corilla Hastings for the use of their home and to Corilla for organizing the deliveries. Maureen Calder did a wonderful job of rounding up all the desserts. You did a great job everyone!

The Library Outlook is Sponsored by



Skowhegan Savings

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.

Calendar of Events

MAY

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

May 1 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.

May 9 FOL MEETING 7:00 pm at the Library. Please attend!

May 12 Make a Mothers' Day Card from 12:00 to 1:00 in the Children's Room. All ages are welcome.

May 14 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room

May 19 Yard sale at the Hastings Farm

May 26 , 27 & 28 Library will be closed for Memorial Weekend

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

June 5 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.

June 11 & 25 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room

June 11 **Town Meeting! Library items to be voted on. Please attend!**

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 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