



THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT October 2005

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

During the month of September, the Skowhegan Free Public Library participated in the "Project Katrina : Read for Relief" initiative. This program was begun by Penny Brown at the Livermore Library and quickly included 150 libraries throughout the state. We sent 6 boxes of books donated by area residents. Many people are still calling wishing to donate books and there will be another opportunity to do so in the near future.

The American Library Association is organizing an "Adopt a Library" program. We will let people know when we will be collecting books for that effort as soon as we have more details.

The Athena computerized catalog system is moving right along. Presently we have 2300 books in the system and about 13,000 left to do. We have 5500 books bar coded so we are making great strides forward.

This month we have lots of interesting events to attend. The Quilt Show on Oct 15, "Trouble at Serenity Pond" an exciting mystery play and pie event on Oct 22, at 7 pm. and the Halloween Parade on October 29,

MORE LIBRARY NEWS

By Katherine LeBlanc

The Skowhegan Community Fall Festival was a huge success! I must thank everyone who came out to volunteer and all the participants who helped in making this event so successful. With over 500 community members milling around, I think that we can plan on the Fall Festival becoming a annual event.

It was exciting to see the farmers' markets, crafters, artists, dancers and community organizations coming together under such a beautiful conditions. Coburn park was awash with sunshine, music, dance and laughter. Again many thanks to all who supported this event. Bar coding is almost complete in the children's area.

Thank you to Bangor Savings Bank for donating the funds to purchase some wonderful new books on the United States.

LIBRARY QUILT SHOW

Don't miss the opportunity to view works completed and in progress by the members of the Somerset Samplers Quilters. The date is Saturday, October 15 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Library. Quilters will be on hand to chat about their very addictive craft! Beware, you too might be tempted to wield a needle! There'll be some very attractive door prizes, and there is no admission charge.

DID YOU KNOW-----?

Did you know that the main reading room at our library was originally known as the Memorial Room for the town of Skowhegan? In 1889 when the library was under construction, the town voted to appropriate money for this room to commemorate those who served in the Civil War. On a black marble tablet above the fireplace are 280 names in alphabetical order, from Abram Adams to Samuel Young. Perhaps you'll see one of your ancestors listed!

The inscription at the top reads: "In honor of the men of Skowhegan who served their country on land and sea, in the war which preserved the union, destroyed slavery, and maintained the constitution. To whose memory the grateful town, erects this tablet, and dedicates this room in its public library."

When you're next in the library, take a few minutes to notice this tablet which, with the magnificent stained glass window portraying Columbia with her flowing flag, identifies the room as a Town Memorial.

New Adult Books at the Library

Fiction:

Buchanan, Edna / *Shadows*
Bushnell, Candace / *Lipstick Jungle*
Cannell, Stephen / *Cold Hit*
Cussler, Clive / *Polar Shift*
Dams, Jeanne / *Crimson Snow*
Didion, Jeanne / *The Year of Magical Thinking*
Erdrich, Louise / *The Painted Drums*
Evans, Nicholas / *The Divide*
Freeman, Brian / *The Immoral*
Garwood, Julie / *Slow Burn*
Hoffman, Alice / *The Foretelling*
Kellerman, Faye / *Straight into the Darkness*
LaHaye, Tim / *The Europa Conspiracy*
McBain, Ed / *Fiddlers : A Novel of the 87th Precinct*
Parker, Robert B. / *School Days*
Siddons, Anne Rivers / *Sweetwater Creek*

Non-Fiction:

Berendt, John / *The City of Falling Angels*
Kroodsma, Donald / *The Singing of Birds*
Mann, Charles / *1491*
Trudeau, Kevin / *Natural Cures*
Rothenberg, David / *Why Birds Sing*

New DVD's

Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone
Harry Potter and The Prisoner of Azkaban
National Treasure
Finding Nemo

A Series of Unfortunate Events

TROUBLE AT TRANQUILITY POND

A Three Act Mystery Play

By Marcia B. Granville

Featuring a stellar cast: including Butch As-selin, Norman Dickey, Melissa Gaspar, Dina Jeannotte, Iver Lofving, Jeff McCabe, Midge Merrill, Storm Nelson, Laura Richter, Richard Roberts, Mary Stuart, and Shannon Simmons.

Come meet the detestable Clifford B. Fowle, his downtrodden wife, Lottie, his daughter, Prue and his ambitious son, Junior.

Why are Bobbie Fischer and Mike Hunter calling on him on a Saturday instead of pursuing their favorite sports?

What does Clifford have against his Prue's boy friend, Eddie?

Why are Clifford and his partner, Anthony Hyde, holding a business meeting in Clifford's home instead of at the office?

What is the *Trouble at Serenity Pond*

Come to the performance at the Skowhegan Area Middle School at 7:00 p.m. on October 22nd and find the answers to all these questions and enjoy a delicious dessert during the intermission as well.

Tickets are \$7.50 each.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteers are needed to bake and/or serve dessert at the pie and play night on Oct. 22nd. If you can help please contact Maureen Calder at 858-0448. Help is really appreciated. Thank you

NOTE: The location of the play has changed. It will be held at the Skowhegan Area Middle School on U.S. Rte. 2.

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS

Gerald & Dottie LaCasse
Dina Jeannotte & Joe Scozzafava
Sr. Claudette Darisse
Lee & Marcia Granville
Norman & Patricia Dickey

Skowhegan Volunteers in the Spotlight

By Melissa Gaspar

The Skowhegan Free Public Library is very fortunate to have Storm and Hunter Nelson as volunteers. They began helping out at the library last November and have been bar coding books all summer.

Storm is a home-schooled senior who enjoys studying history and is currently interested in psychology and sociology. His reading interests are science fiction and historical fiction. Some recent books that he enjoyed are "Lord of the Rings", "Harry Potter and the Half-blood prince", "The Count of Monte Cristo" and the "Three Musketeers".

Storm's hobbies range from building computers and trouble shooting computer problems to water sports such as kayaking, swimming and fishing. He is also learning to play the keyboard. His future plans include working with computers as a career path.

Hunter Nelson is a home-schooled 8th grader who enjoys reading and math. He really enjoyed reading "Sadako and the One Thousand Paper Cranes" and "The Time Cat." He is now reading The Warriors series by Erin Hunter. The first book is called "Into the Wild."

Hunter's hobbies include bowling. He also enjoys water sports especially swimming and fishing. He also likes playing video games. "Ratchet and Clank" is one of his favorites. In fact, Hunter would like to work in the video game industry when he is older or do something with video game music.

Both Storm and Hunter decided to volunteer at the library because they wanted to do something for their community. Their help is really appreciated.

Thank you Storm and Hunter Nelson.

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



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Book Review

by Corrilla Hastings

POLAND SPRING A Tale of the Gilded Age,
1860-1900 by David L. Richards

Skowhegan's own Dave Richards, assistant director of the Margaret Chase Smith Library, has written a fascinating cultural study depicting the story of the Poland Spring resort. This famous hotel had its beginning when Jabez Ricker struck a deal with the Shakers, trading his farm in Alfred, Maine for one in Poland. Moving there in 1794 with his wife and then eight children, Ricker soon found himself taking in occasional travelers who had no other place to stay in the area. Future Ricker generations developed this role of innkeepers, eventually building the magnificent summer colony visited by upper-middle-class tourists from far and wide. By the late 1800's, a luxurious third floor suite in the Poland Spring House could be rented "for the princely sum of seventy dollars per week".

Written in a scholarly but very readable style, David interweaves the story of the resort with lively descriptions of the life style of Poland Spring patrons from this "Gilded Age" in our history. Don't miss this book; you'll enjoy it!

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 _____

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
October 4 Library Trustee meeting, 6 pm. The public is welcome to attend.
October 10 Toddler Time 10:30 in the Children's Room
October 15 Somerset Samplers' Quilt Show 10:00 to 2:00 at the Library
October 22 *Trouble at Serenity Pond* 7:00 pm at Skowhegan Area Middle School
October 24 Toddler Time 10:30 IN THE Children's Room
October 29 Halloween Parade Contact the Library for details.

NOVEMBER

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
November 1 Library Trustee meeting, 6 pm. The public is welcome to attend.
November 14 Toddler Time 10:30 in the Children's Room
November 24 Library closed for Thanksgiving
November 28 Toddler Time 10:30 in the Children's Room

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:

Dina Jeannotte, Pres.,
Mary Stuart, Vice Pres.,
Marilyn Renfrew, Sec.
Pam Arsenault, Treas
Marcia Granville, Editor

2006-May

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