



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

The Library Lookout

MARCH 2009

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

The Socrates Café opened February 14 at the Skowhegan Public Library with coffee, tea and philosophy and 12 people gathered to talk about Love since it was Valentine's Day. Philosophy means, "love of wisdom" and this informal philosophy club will meet the second Saturday of the month from 11 am- 1 pm to share ideas and have fun. March 14th will be the next meeting and the topic will be "Happiness" All are welcome. Come share your thoughts on what makes you happy. What would help to make the world a happier place?

On Saturday evening, March 14 at 6pm there will be a Chicken Pie Dinner Fundraiser at the Centenary Methodist Church, 113 Dr. Mann Road, in Skowhegan. All profits from the dinner will go to the Library Renovation Project 2012. Tickets are on sale at the library at \$12 per person. Children 8 and under are half price. Join us for a delicious home cooked meal and help the library at the same time.

On Thursday, March 19, the library will host the Maple Sugar Week Ice Cream Social. Free ice cream with maple syrup toppings from 5:30-6:30. We are hoping the Maple Sugar Princesses will grace us with their presence again this year. Amber Lambke will display the ceramic plates she and others have created for the Maple Sugar Week events.

The Knitting group meets every Friday from 4pm-6pm. Knitters of all levels and all ages are

welcome. If you do not know how to knit we will help you get started.

Great news! I am happy to announce that we have received a grant of \$3000 from the Maine Community Foundation for our Community Art Project. We requested the grant to create a large athletic shoe to commemorate our shoe industry past and present-- New Balance. We also thought an athletic shoe would symbolize a thank you to New Balance for their generous support to the community and be an icon for the "Move More Kids" initiative. The shoe is in motion to show activity and forward movement towards our goals. The large shoe will also encourage people to take a walk along the historic trail in the down town area following the interpretive signs. These 8 signs are located in historic areas and teach a lot about the heritage of Skowhegan. And finally the large athletic shoe will be a public display of art for our Community Art Project. Barry Norling has been commissioned to create the shoe. The grand unveiling will be on May 13, at the Friends Annual Meeting. Save that date and more details to follow!

Happy First Day of Spring to everyone and may you see some crocuses soon. The library has a great collection of gardening books to help you get an early start.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

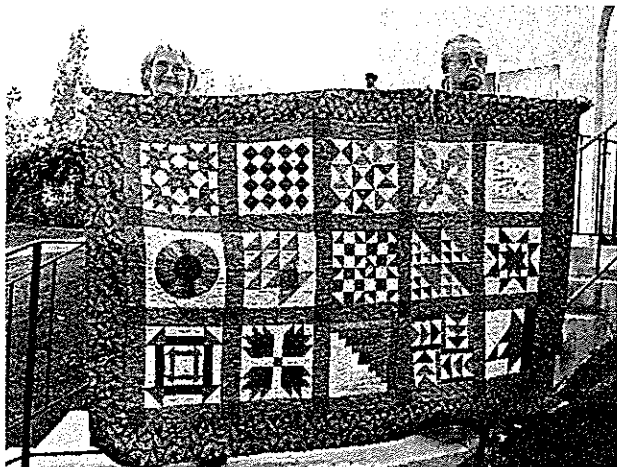
By Katherine LeBlanc

Winter has really not slowed things down here in the Children's Room. Story hour has still kept us hopping with enthusiastic youngsters eager to listen and make a craft. It is really nice to see that the tradition of story hour still continues years after it began.

We are in the midst of planning for the summer reading program and have come up with several low cost/ no cost ideas to entertain the kids this summer. However, anyone with any suggestions please feel free to call the library with your ideas.

We are running extremely low on construction paper, glue sticks, and thick markers for the kids. These are the staples to every story hour. Any donation pertaining to these items would be greatly appreciated.

We have received a donation of some wonderful new young adult titles recently from Marilyn Renfrew. There are so many to read that I have only been able to read a few, however we are very lucky to be the recipient of these new books. Thank you Marilyn for thinking of us.



Judee and David Koda from California hold the beautiful Civil War quilt made by Jayne Hart. The Kodas, cousins of Maureen Calder, were winners of the December raffle for the benefit of Project 2012.

LIBRARY LUNCHESES

The Friends of the Library will hold their annual "Library Lunches" fundraiser on Friday, April 17. Volunteers are needed for the various jobs involved in this project. Would you like to join the fun? If so, please call Mary Hill at 474-7464. We need sales people, sandwich makers, and drivers. Here's how it works:

In late March, order blanks are delivered to businesses and schools around town and later collected and delivered to Marcia Granville who makes up the shopping list. Calls go out to more volunteers for individually wrapped homemade cookies or dessert bars to be dropped off at the Library on April 16. Work on April 17 starts early in the morning when sandwich makers gather at Corilla Hastings' house to prepare the 200 plus lunches. Drivers arrive to whisk the lunch bags to the businesses and schools that have ordered them. Library patrons may also order lunches, which will be delivered to the Library on the same day.

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.

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 Judy McCarthy

The Lace Reader, a best selling debut novel by Brunonia Barry, is a tale about the haunting memories of Towner Whitney. Towner, a self-confessed liar, returns to Salem, Massachusetts after a long absence, upon learning of her aunt's mysterious disappearance. While recalling her troubled past, she uncovers hidden family secrets and the truth about her twin sister's death. Towner comes from a long line of strong women who have the mystical ability to read the past and future in lace patterns.

This novel was selected by the Red Hat Society as a monthly discussion book, but one does not have to be a Red Hatter to enjoy this intriguing, story. I particularly liked the author's use of imagery. It took me a while to sort out the unique characters and their relationships, but once I got into the story I just wanted to keep reading. There is mystery, drama and an ending that surprised me. I wanted to go back to see if there were clues I had missed. Maybe if I were a better lace reader??

P.S. Be sure to read the excerpts from the Lace Readers' Journal at the beginning of each chapter.

NEW AND RENEWED FOL MEMBERS

Irene Magoon
Virginia Jordan

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

Binchy, Maeve/ *Heart and Soul*
Child, Lincoln/ *Terminal Freeze*
Delinsky, Barbara/ *While My Sister Sleeps*
Fairstein, Linda/ *Lethal Legacy*
Green, Tim/ *Above the Law*
Hannah, Kristen/ *True Colors*
Jenoff, Pam/ *Almost Home*
LaHaye, Tim/ *Luke's Story*
Michaels, Fern/ *Under the Radar*
Palmer, Michael/ *The Second Opinion*
Parker, Robert B./ *Night and Day*
Parker, T. Jefferson/ *The Renegades*
Patterson, James/ *Run for your Life*
Rivers, Joan/ *Murder at the Academy Awards*
Robb, J.D./ *Promises in Death*
Stabenow, Dana/ *Whisper to the Blood*
Steel, Danielle/ *One Day at a Time*

NON-FICTION

Fodor/ *Caribbean 2009*
Lambert, C.S./ *A Passion for Sea Glass*
O'Reilly, Bill/ *A Bold Fresh Piece of Humanity*

LIBRARY SUPPORT

Members of the Somerset Samplers have created a beautiful hand embellished 60" x 70" Victorian Crazy Quilt for which they are selling raffle tickets. Drawing will be in October and proceeds will benefit the Skowhegan Library. Tickets (\$1 each or 3 for \$2) may be purchased at the Library, from any member of the Somerset Samplers, and wherever the quilt is currently on display. This quilt is truly a work of art. Don't miss the chance of winning it!

The Library Lookout is Sponsored by:



**Skowhegan
Savings**

Calendar of Events

MARCH

Every Wednesday: Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

March 3 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

March 4 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

March 5 FOL Executive Board meeting, 6 PM. All members welcome.

March 9 & 23 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM

March 14 Socrates Café, 11AM – 1 PM. Topic: Happiness

March 14 Chicken Pie Dinner at Methodist Church, 6 PM

March 19 Ice Cream Social, 5:30 – 6:30. Free.

APRIL

Every Wednesday: Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

April 7 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

April 8 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

April 11 Socrates Café, 11AM – 1 PM.

April 13 & 27 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM.

April 17 Library Lunches, FOL fundraiser

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.

Nancy Chapman
70 Dore Lane
Skowhegan, Maine 04976

