



The Library Lookout

March 2011

<http://www.skowhegan.lib.me.us>
skowlib@skowhegan.lib.me.us
207 474 9072

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

In the February newsletter I announced that the Skowhegan Public Library would be offering an audio and ebook service, called The Maine Infonet Download Program beginning on Feb. 1st. The start date for the Download program was delayed until March 1st. The Skowhegan Library should be on the list beginning March 1st. The directions are the same. Library members will be able to access it by going to www.download.maineinfonet.org. You must have the new 14 digit library card to log in. All the instructions are on the Maine Infonet website, but the library will have handouts for your convenience.

The 3 Women's clubs--Semper Fidelis, The Dove Society and GFWC/Skowhegan Woman's Club joined forces to sponsor "Grease" the sing-along as a fundraiser for the library. They raised over \$1000. Many thanks to them and to Bob Gauvin and his students who made the posters and tickets. The 3 Woman's Clubs have raised over \$7000 to date for the library renovation.

As many of you have heard by now, I am leaving my position as Library Director in Skowhegan to move closer to my family in MA. I have loved working at the library and thank each member of the library board, Corilla Hastings, Carol Jarvis, Toni Jo Blaisdell, Lee Granville and Warren Shay for their dedication. I have so enjoyed working with all of you. It has been a productive 6 years for construction projects. We have seen the completion of a new roof and chimney, new brick façade, and a new heating system. In addition many windows have been restored by the expertise of Steve Dionne. Thank you Steve.

I would like to thank Francoise for her many

years of service at the library...over 30! She has been an extremely valued employee for her knowledge of library work especially when it comes to the Interlibrary loan system and keeping statistics. Francoise has moved forward with all the automated changes at the library and made the nicest cards for everyone. It's not easy to juggle all the responsibilities of a busy circulation desk. Thank goodness for Linda Betts, our volunteer extraordinaire. Linda has won the Library Volunteer of the year award 3 years in a row. Thank you Linda for your smiling disposition and all the kind things you do for everyone. Thank you Angie for joining our staff as the new Children's Librarian. It has been fun working with you.

I would also like to thank Stan Trevains, library assistant and jack of all trades. Stan you have added a lot to our staff. There were many projects that you were willing to do, like fix the vacuum cleaner or hang up the dragon kite, that were much appreciated. Thank you to Pamela Arinze, library assistant and genealogy assistant. You have been a great match for the library especially since you enjoy doing genealogy research.

And many thanks to Ruth Blood for her sincere dedication to genealogy. Your classes were so popular no one wanted them to stop and they became monthly genealogy reunions. Thank you for all the difficult genealogy inquiries you researched. You are amazing when it comes to tracking down information.

I would like to thank all the members of the Friends Group past and present. You have supported the library for over 12 years and raised money to help with projects. Most recently you have paid for new computers, flat screen monitors, bookcases, the library barcodes, new library cards and the new library automated system Destiny. Without a Friends Group it is hard for a library to

thrive. I have counted my blessings to have such a wonderful hardworking Friends Group in Skowhegan.

I would also like to thank the members of the Library Renovation Committee.--Marcia Granville, chair, Bonnie Chamberlain, Judy Gamage, Jayne Hart, Joyce Foley and Corilla Hastings. This is the fourth year you have met every month to plan fundraising events and to support the library. Thank you for the "Evening with the Stars" the auction, and many other fundraisers. In total you have raised over \$135,000 towards the roof, heating system and windows, and \$300,000 for the Library ADA Project 2012. Thank you so very much. And many thanks to Al Laiho for keeping track of our financial activities.

It has been a very positive 6 years for me and I thank everyone for your kindness and appreciation. I will miss you, but I hope to keep in touch. I will keep supporting the Skowhegan Public Library and I hope you all will too.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Angie Herrick

We had some exciting visitors last month! Mrs. Welch's, Ms. Hilton's, and Ms. Foley's classes came in to visit us from Mill Stream Elementary School. All these 1st grade students were excited to explore the library, and some have even come back in to get their very own library cards! Many of these students had never been in the library before and it is exciting to see them return with their families!

Also, we had a very successful Valentine Card Creation Party. There were over 20 people who came to make homemade Valentines and share in some yummy refreshments. Fun was had by all!

A new monthly Family Story hour will be starting on March 15th. It will be from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. so families with kids in school can also participate in a story-time hour. This month our theme will be St. Patrick's Day. We will be trying a tasty Irish treat and listening to a favorite Irish folktale. Come join the fun!



Recent visitors from Mill Stream School

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Ice cream with special maple toppings will be available on Thursday, March 24 from 5:30 to 7 PM at the library. A video program on maple sugaring will be presented by Sherri Vigue. Activities for kids. Come and bring the family!

New and Renewed Members

Irene Magoon
Ruth Blood
Katharine Philbrick

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 Bella Herrick
Age 10

12 Finally by Wendy Mass

12 Finally is a good book for kids around nine and up. It's a book about a girl who wants to be cool like the other kids when she turns twelve. She has a whole list of things she wants to do when she turns twelve. But then she gets into quite a few pickles because of that list. Then she learns that being cool isn't everything to life. But I really recommend this book to kids who want to be cool but at the same time, don't want to be cool. That's why you should check it out!



We will miss her!

PROJECT 2012 EVENTS

PIZZA DAY at AL'S PIZZA

Sunday, March 27 from 8 AM until 9 PM, a percentage of all sandwiches and pizza sales at Al's Pizza will be donated to Project 2012. Thank you to the generous people at Al's!

PENNY DRIVE,

"Reading Makes Sense"

The penny cans are filling up! Thanks to all who donate their spare change!

BOTTLE REFUNDS, The grand total is well above \$900. We expect to reach \$1000 this month! Please take your bottles and cans to C & M Recycling on St. Mark Street or the Beverage Mart on North Avenue.

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This issue of Library Lookout is sponsored by

Alexander Turbyne, III DMD
44 Bennett Avenue
Skowhegan, ME 04976

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

Crais, Robert/ *The Sentry*
Edwards, Kim/ *The Lake of Dreams*
Harrod-Eagles, Cynthia/ *The Dancing Years*
Higgins, Jack/ *The Judas Gate*
Hoffman, Alice/ *The Red Garden*
Jance, J.A./ *Fatal Error*
Koontz, Dean/ *What the Night Knows*
Krentz, Jayne Ann/ *In Too Deep*
Lescroart, John/ *Damage*
Meltzer, Brad/ *The Inner Circle*
Parker, T. Jefferson/ *The Border Lords*
Patterson, James/ *Tick Tock*
Woods, Stuart/ *Strategic Moves*

NON-FICTION:

Blackwell, Ken/ *The Blueprint*
Darznik, Jasmin/ *The Good Daughter*
Fowler, Raymond/ *The Allagash Abductions*
Schiff, Stacy/ *Cleopatra*
Slawenski, Kenneth/ *J.D. Salinger*

The Library Lookout
9 Elm Street
Skowhegan, ME 04976

Your librarians:

Library Director Melissa Gaspar
Children's Librarian Angie Herrick
Assistant Librarian Francoise LaBonte

Your Library Trustees:

Toni Jo Blaisdell,
Lee Granville, Corrilla Hastings
Carol Jarvais, Warren Shay
Ex Officio, Darla Pickett

Friends officers:

Darla Pickett, pres.
Peggy Lovejoy, vice pres.,
Pam McDermott, sec. Kathleen Littlefield, treas.

Calendar of Events

MARCH

Children's Story and Craft Hour every Wed. at 10 AM
March 1 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 PM
March 2 Library Renovation Committee Meeting, 6 PM
March 3 Library Friends Executive Board Meeting, 6 PM
March 9 Towns in Transition, Burrill Hill Rd. Sugar Shack, 7 PM
March 12 Socrates Café at the Blueberry Cupboard 11AM-1PM.
March 14 & 28 Toddlertime 6mo-3yr. music and stories, 10:30 AM
March 15 Family Story Hour, 4:30 to 5:30
March 17 Jazz Night @ the library 7pm Free!
March 24 Ice Cream Social, part of Maple Sugar Week, 5:30 to 7 PM
March 27 Library Pizza and Sandwich at Al's Pizza day, 8 AM to 9 PM

APRIL

Children's Story and Craft Hour every Wed. at 10 AM
April 5 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 PM
April 6 Library Renovation Committee Meeting, 6 PM
April 9 Socrates Café at the Blueberry Cupboard 11 AM – 1 PM
April 13 Our Connection with the Civil War, 7 PM
April 11 & 25 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM
April 15 Friends of the Library Lunches delivered
April 18 Library closed for Patriot's Day
April 19 – 22 Children's activities
April 21 Jazz Night, 7 PM