



The Library Lookout

June 2001

Tel: 474-9072

GATES COMPUTER GRANT

The Skowhegan Free Public Library has recently been awarded a technology grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The purpose of the Gates Grant is to provide funds for the expansion of public access to computers and the Internet. The \$17,110.00 grant will allow the Library to purchase four Gates Library computers, a content server, a laser printer, state of the art software and other related equipment. The Grant also provides for free wiring and installation costs and includes comprehensive staff training. Installation and training will occur between now and March 15, 2002. This grant will allow the Library to substantially improve the computer and Internet services available to the community. Lee Granville, a member of the Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library, was instrumental in preparing the Gates Grant application.

ART EXHIBIT

Students of the Skowhegan Area Adult Education oil painting class are exhibiting their artwork at the Library from June 1st to June 15th. The exhibit opened on Friday, June 1st with a reception at the Library from 7 to 8:30 p.m. From June 2 to June 15, the exhibit will be open during regular library hours.

This year's local artists include from Skowhegan: Alyssa Carthy, Penny Denis, Peter Foxwell, Scott and Julia Gagne, Gail Tanner, George Norris, Jim Small and daughter Stephanie Small, Patricia Boyle, and Adle Donovan; from Solon: Eunice Forbus, Katherine Perkins, Gerda Pilz, Marilyn Rogers and Dana Hall; from Canaan: Stephen Ruell, and Kare Mathiasson; and from Norridgewock: Linwood Turcotte.

The instructor, Peggy Tozier Graf of Canaan, has been teaching adult education classes for several years. Peggy's interest in art began when she enrolled in an adult education art class taught by the late Connie Snow. She is basically a self-taught artist although she has taken lessons from several local artists. Peggy's art studio is located on Route #2 in Canaan. She also gives classes in her home. She can be reached at 474-7590

SPECIAL FOL MEETING

A Special meeting of the Friends of the Library is called for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 20th.

Some changes need to be made to our By-Laws. These need to be voted on by the general membership, so please come to the meeting on the 20th of June. Copies of the proposed changes will be available at the library for your inspection.

In the process of applying for tax-free status from the State of Maine and eventually from the IRS, we've learned that some changes must be made to our By Laws. Under Article 2, which explains the purpose of the Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library, we have added language to satisfy the federal government. In order to become a tax-free organization, we must become a corporation which requires a clerk. Additions to the By-Laws refer to that office. An article concerning administration was added. This spells out the powers of the Executive Board, especially regarding its right to make everyday decisions for the Friends. Finally, a clause was added to the article spelling out distribution of assets if the Friends disband. This conforms to language that will be used in the application for tax-free status from the IRS.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to send in your FOL membership renewal to our treasurer, Kathy Hughes. Please use the form on page 3 of this newsletter.

TRUSTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The date for the next Library Trustee meeting has been changed to Wednesday, June 13 at 4 PM at the Library. This is an open meeting.

The Weeding Workshop, to be presented by a representative from the Maine State Library, will be held on Thursday, June 14 from 3 to 5:30. If you would like to attend, please get in touch with Bill Laney.

It has been noted that our Library Trustee chairman is a true master at wielding dust cloth and vacuum cleaner! At a recent clean-up "party" in the second-floor stack area, the dust flew as Bill directed his two willing (?) flunkies, Marcia and Corrilla. "Mr. Clean" has his eye on some other projects within the next several weeks: mainly the attic and the basement. To volunteer in this effort and find out the date for the next clean-up session, please call Bill. Grab your broom and join us! It's really fun and very satisfying!

CHILDREN'S NONFICTION

Kathy Hughes has recently presented the very fine collection of 57 new nonfiction books for the Children's Room to Lois Moody. These books are due to the generosity of area service groups and the Friends.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

May 30 was the last day for the Wednesday Story Hour for the year. It will be resumed in September.

It is now time for children ages 4 and up to register for Summer Reading Club 2001. There is a sign-up sheet upstairs in the Children's Room. Fliers are also available describing the Wednesday afternoon programs starting on July 11.

LOG DAYS PARADE

We need a new and clever idea for the Library float in the Log Days Parade on July 28. To volunteer either your time or your thoughts, please contact Corrilla.

FOL ANNUAL MEETING

A program of book reviews and creative writing by Skowhegan students was the highlight of the FOL Annual meeting held on May 9. Kathy Evans and Mary Turbyne organized the event with the following young people as participants: Sandra Hunt from the High School, Dylan Wentworth and Lacey Walker from the Middle School, and Natalie Dumont, Konnor Therriault, Caleb York and Sabra Walker from Bloomfield Elementary Thank you to these young readers and writers for a delightful program!

GARDEN TOUR

Tickets are on sale at the Library, the Town Office, the Chamber of Commerce building, Boynton's Greenhouse or by calling Marcia (474 7207) for this first-ever Library Garden Tour (plus optional Gourmet Lunch) on Saturday, July 21. You won't want to miss this event! Get your tickets NOW!

If you would like to be a part of the working team on this day, please contact a member of our committee: Shirley Bastien, Dottie LaCasse, Marcia or Corrilla.

THE LOSS OF A FRIEND

The Friends of the Library has lost a true and valued friend with the death of Herky Foster. Our deepest sympathy goes to Herky's wife, Ginny, and to his son, Jim.

SPARK MEETING

On May 31, Kathy Hughes, Marcia Granville and Corrilla Hastings attended the SPARK meeting at the Norway Public Library. Approximately twenty Children's Librarians from the central Maine area gathered to exchange ideas on programming and hear a description of Norway's newly developed "Play and Learn" collection of learning activity material. Norway Public Library is currently undergoing an expansion project which is due to be completed in the fall. Director Ann Siekman conducted a very interesting tour of the facility and spoke about the renovations.

Although Norway has a population of only 4900, the Library Trustees have been able to raise \$950,000 for the project. The completed library will include

a handicapped accessible entrance, an elevator, a multi-purpose room, and expanded space for its collections.

THE LAWN SALE

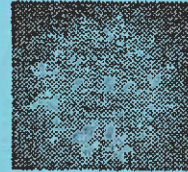
Saturday, May 19th was a drippy dreary day, but the annual six-mile (plus) lawn sale in the Cornville - Skowhegan area was held anyway. The Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library took part for the third time this year, using Jim and Corrilla Hastings's barn and garage. It's a good thing they have so much space inside. Otherwise the sale would have had to be postponed.

The Friends were afraid no one would come, but avid lawn-salers are not deterred by a little rain. The first customer entered the barn about 6:30 a.m. before most of the volunteers had arrived. Dottie LaCasse, Corrilla Hastings, Marcia Granville and Mary Stuart were kept busy piling glassware, kitchen tools, cameras and craft items from boxes onto the tables that were supposed to have gone outside. Customers arrived in bunches and enjoyed prowling through the three barn rooms full of merchandise.

Meanwhile two thirteen-year-old boys managed the

food concession in the garage all by themselves. They cooked hotdogs, fried onions, toasted rolls and poured coffee and sold goodies until every dog was gone. We owe a big vote of thanks to Matthew Moore and his friend Tim. Their help was invaluable.

Another big vote of thanks is due to the ladies who baked so generously for the Library Lunch in April. They were so generous that the left over cookies and bars were stored in the freezer until they could be thawed out for the lawn sale. Finally, thank you to everyone who cleaned their attics and cupboards for the sale. The Friends of the Library renovation/restoration fund is richer by \$1142.11.



NOTE THAT THE LIBRARY IS NOW ON SUMMER HOURS.

(See chart below left.)

This newsletter is
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SKOWHEGAN SAVINGS BANK
Your Working Bank

SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS

	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
ADULT	1-5:30	10-5:30	10-5:30	1-5:30	1-7:30	10-2
CHILDREN	1-5:30	10-5:30	10-5:30	1-5:30	1-5:30	10-2

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. individuals, \$8. Seniors & Students, and \$15. for families. We normally meet at the Library the second Wednesday of every other month, unless scheduling conflicts require another date. For more information, call Corrilla Hastings (474-3949).

Please complete this form and mail to Kathy Hughes, RR1, Box 2760, Skowhegan, Me 04976. Welcome.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Tel. # _____
 E-Mail Address _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 1-15 Art Exhibit at Library. See page one for details.
- June 12 Book Discussion Group, *The Beans of Egypt, Maine*, 6:00-8:00 PM at the Library.
- June 13 Library Trustees Meeting. 4:00 PM at the Library. Note changed date.
- June 14 Weeding Workshop, 3-5:30 PM at the Library. See page two for details.
- June 18 Beginning of Summer Reading Club for children.
- June 20 Special Friends Meeting. See page one for details.
- July 3 Library Trustees Meeting. 4:00 PM at the Library.
- July 11 Wednesday afternoon program for children.
- July 18 Wednesday afternoon program for children.
- July 21 Skowhegan Area Garden Tour, 10:00-5:00. beginning at Centenary United Methodist Church, Dr. Mann Road.
- July 28 Log Days Parade. We will have a float.



The Library Lookout

Friends of the Skowhegan
Free Public Library
c/o Skowhegan Free Public Library
Elm Street
Skowhegan, ME 04976

Your Librarians Are:

Helen Shaw,
Francoise Labonte,
Lois Moody
and Thelma Butler

Your Library Trustees Are:

Bill Laney, Warren Shay,
Mary Davies, Betsey Hall,
Kathy Dorko,
Toni Jo Blaisdell and
Rick Anzelc

Friends Officers Are:

Corilla Hastings, Pres.;
Jim Foster, V.P.,
Marcia Granville, Sec.
and Kathy Hughes, Treas.