



Library Lookout

October 2003 Tel: 474-9072

FOL Secretary's Report

September 10, 2003

[The following report has been condensed due to lack of space. Anyone wishing to see the full report may pick one up at the library or call Maureen Calder at 858-0448.]

President Corrilla Hastings opened the meeting with a welcome to all in attendance. The Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were approved as read.

Corrilla spoke of coming events. Maureen, Francoise and Marcia will attend the Friends of Maine Libraries Conference on September 26th. Friends of the Library have volunteered to help at the book sale which will take place on the 12th at the library. The Library Lunch is on October 24th. Volunteers have agreed to make desserts. More Volunteers are needed for the event.

Blynn Currier announced that a book discussion of *Empire Falls* will be held after October 23rd, hopefully at the Empire Grill. Cast and crew will be invited to attend. Ralph Baldwin or Iver Lofving will facilitate.

Corrilla turned the meeting over to Bill Laney and Blynn Currier for an update on the future of the library and to answer any questions. Bill began by presenting three points leading to where we are now.

1. Blynn was hired as library director a year ago and has made improvements, assessed library needs and promoted a more positive and

helpful environment.

2. Bill and Warren Shay are obtaining surveys to determine the library boundaries and are working on an agreement with Skowhegan Savings Bank concerning access to a possible handicap access at the rear of the library building.

3. The architect, Sylvanus Doughty, has requested figures on square footage needed for the library to fulfill the needs of the population to be served. The results of a formula provided by the Maine State Library is 11,686 sq. ft. Blynn's record keeping of the past year proved valuable in the process. Problems include the space needed for an elevator, lack of expansion room and the financing of the library by Skowhegan and the Bloomfield Trustees, owners of the building and endowment

Blynn took some time to explain the formula used to provide information to the architect. He talked of the geographical area served and voiced concerns about lack of space, parking, restrooms, and handicap accessibility.

Bill noted that Earl Shuttleworth, who is responsible for buildings in the National Historic Registry, will look at the library to determine exactly what will be allowed in the way of renovations. He added to earlier information that the Skowhegan Savings Bank will grant right of way only to a handicap entrance. The main entrance would remain out front. He said that Bill Randall, treasurer of the Bloomfield Trustees, is keeping money coming to the library from the

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town in separate records in order to more accurately report where it goes. Once a plan is in place, a campaign for rounding up funds would begin.

There was a general discussion on the feasibility of a new and controlled survey of the town, what would happen if the building cannot be renovated, and the possibility of using land elsewhere. Bill said that he would hate to see the library leave the building, but that it needs to be functional. He stated that leaving the building would divide the town. It was said that nothing can be done until after Mr. Shuttleworth and Mr. Doughty give us their recommendations. Once plans are in place, Blynn will look into writing grants to different foundations.

The costs of operation were discussed further. More money is needed because the times are changing and the library needs are changing with them. Also, salaries should be increased to keep up with the cost of living, etc. Davida Barter suggested putting a notice in the newsletter concerning personal endowments.

Blynn said that volunteers at the library have increased, circulation is up, there are more home deliveries and more kids participating. He said the community is really pitching in. Semper Fidelis is painting upstairs and two high school kids will set up a web site. The Skowhegan Art School wants to do a sculpture out front and a mural on the stairway next summer. Iver Lofving and his students are also considering doing a mural.

Dave Richards commented on the improved look and atmosphere of the library. He also reminded us that it is not bricks and mortar but the people.

Blynn announced that a Halloween window display and parade will be held on October 30th and 31st. He thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned.

LIBRARY HOURS					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
10-6	10-6	10-6	10-7	10-6	10-2

MEET A VOLUNTEER

Enthusiastic, easy going, flexible and thoughtful are all words that well describe the new volunteers at the library.

Christine Hadley has been at Skowhegan's Free Public Library since July and loves the time she's spending there, the people she meets and the work she does.

Christine, the oldest in a family of six girls, came to the area four years ago from Salem, New Hampshire. She had spent childhood vacations here and has family who had moved here previously. With their encouragement and her familiarity with the area she decided it was a good place to raise her children. She is the mother of three energetic children ages twelve, three and two. She and her children spend time together walking and reading and enjoying family time. Christine and her oldest son enjoy talking about and sharing books such as the Harry Potter series and King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. She has always been an avid reader and wants to instill a love of books in her children.

This talented and pleasant woman is in the process of teaching herself to knit, has already taught herself to crochet and is learning to be more adept at the computer in order to help patrons of the library. "There has been so much to discover working here," according to Christine. "You don't realize what is involved on the other side until you are there." She says she loves to learn. "If you never try, you never know." With a philosophy like that she is most definitely an asset to the library.

The next time you are in the library, look her up. She looks forward to meeting people and appreciates the friendliness she has experienced so far.

Welcome, Christine! We're so pleased to have you with us.

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BOOK REVIEW

By Skowhegan Nursery School students
From Head to Toe by Eric Carle

Euriah and Tucker like the way the monkey waves his arms and touches his head. Samantha likes the way the gorilla pounds his chest. Brendan, Zachary and Tyler like the way the crocodile wiggles his hips, and that he is green. Elizabeth likes the elephants and doesn't like dinosaurs. Sam and Tyler both like the way the buffalo raises his shoulders. Evan and Ellie just like the donkey. Cooper likes the spot on the giraffe. Everyone likes the way the penguin can turn his head just like an owl. We all like the book because we can act out the movements with the animals.

Recipes Needed!



Do you have a favorite recipe to share? We would love to publish it in the "Library Lover's

Cookbook." Please make a clean copy and drop it off at the library desk.

Next month the **DIRECTOR'S CORNER** will return. We will also have a report on the Friends of Maine Library Conference held September 26th.

New Memberships and Renewals since May 2003

Welcome to you all and thank you for being Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library.

Iver Lofving & Maililani Bailey, Jean Butler, Maureen Calder, Elaine & George Cannel, Dot & Chuck Cleaver, Diane & Tom Crowley, Joan & Robert Farnsworth, Lee & Marcia Granville, Corrilla & Jim Hastings, Patricia & Sam Horine, Kathy & Paul Hughes, Dottie & Gerald LaCasse, Cindy & Al Laiho, Judith McCarthy & Robert Landry, Miriam Mallory, Hilma Millett, Oto, Petra & Matush Prokop, Marilyn & Roger Renfrew, Sylvia & Mait Richardson, Lisa & Jim Veilleux, Nancy Warren, Alton Whittemore, Barbara Whitkop

LIBRARY BROWN BAG LUNCHES

Friday, October 24 is the date to enjoy a delicious Library Brown Bag Lunch! You may order your lunch at the library check-out desk any time before Thursday, October 16. The price is \$6.00 and includes a sandwich and beverage of your choice, chips, apple, homemade dessert, and chocolate mint.

We still need volunteers for this event, so if you have an hour or so free, we'd love to have you join us. Call either Corrilla (474-3949) or Marcia (474-7207)

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2003

Skowhegan Free Public
Library

Cordially Invites You
To the Re-opening of the
Children's Library
Open House

October 16 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

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, 175 James Road, Cornville, Maine 04976

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____

Tel.# _____
E-Mail Address _____

Calendar of Events

- October 1 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 October 8 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 October 15 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 October 16 Wednesday Evening 5:30 to 7:30 Children's Room **Open House**
 October 22 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 October 24 Library Brown Bag Lunches
 October 29 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 October 30 Window Painting downtown
 October 31 4:00 pm Halloween Costume parade
 November 5 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 November 12 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 November 12 FOL Meeting Genealogy will be the program topic.
 November 19 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
 November 26 Wednesday Morning Story and Craft Hour, 10 am 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, ME 04976

Your Librarians are:
 Library Director Blynn Currier,
 Assistant Librarian Francois Labonte,
 Children's Librarian Katherine LeBlanc,
 Your Library trustees are: Bill Laney,
 Warren Shay, Lee Granville,
 Toni Jo Blaisdell and Carol Jarvis
 Friends Officers are:
 Corilla Hastings, Pres.,
 () V.P.,
 Maureen Calder, Sec.
 () Treas.

