



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

The Library Lookout

OCTOBER 2009

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

October is packed full of wonderful events.

First of all, the Somerset Samplers will be hosting a Quilt Show on Oct. 2nd 10am-6pm and Oct. 3rd 10am-4pm at the Federated Church and the Tewksbury Building on the island. Admission is \$3 and lunch is available both days. The Somerset Samplers will be selling raffle tickets for the Victorian Quilt, an amazing and beautiful quilt with ribbon embroidery. The proceeds from this raffle will benefit the Skowhegan Public Library's Renovation Fund Project 2012. The raffle drawing will be on Oct. 3 in the afternoon.

Reading is definitely en-RICH-ing in Skowhegan. Katelyn Belyea has raised \$976. by reading. It all began in 2007 when Katelyn was 6 years old and just learning to read. Katelyn got very excited about the books she could read all by herself. Her mother got an idea that would celebrate Katelyn's reading and help the library. She asked family and friends to pledge a small amount per book to raise money to donate to the Library Project 2012. Well, Katelyn read more books than anyone imagined! We are very proud of Katelyn's efforts in raising money. Over the past three years Katelyn has raised \$976! A truly amazing amount of money for an 8 year old. She is trying to reach \$1000-- the amount that will qualify her as a "Coburn Society Donor". If anyone would like to help Katelyn,

they may send a donation to the library in care of Katelyn Belyea Reading, The Skowhegan Public Library, 9 Elm Street, Skowhegan, ME 04976. (See the picture of Katelyn and her siblings on the next page.)

Come celebrate with us on Thurs. Oct. 22, 4:30-7pm at 13 Elm Street. The Skowhegan Savings Bank is kicking off a year long celebration of their 140th anniversary. The library is celebrating its 120th anniversary. Both institutions were founded by Abner Coburn, a former Maine Governor and prominent Skowhegan citizen. There will be music, seasonal hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and a historical display of memorabilia from the bank and the library. The bank mascots Trusty Tree and Penny Pine Cone will be available for photos with guests of all ages. The giant athletic shoe will also be on display. Fun and festive, this promises to be a most exciting event.

The Heritage House Restaurant is helping the library. On Friday evening, Oct. 23rd 2009 the Heritage House Restaurant will be sponsoring a Library Fundraiser by donating a portion of the proceeds from the evening's meals to the library. Enjoy an elegant evening out and help the library at the same time. You can make reservations by calling the Heritage House Restaurant at 474-5100.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Katherine LeBlanc

Happy Fall! Although the Children's Room has slowed down some since school started, the after school traffic has picked up and the kids are coming in for projects and homework help daily.

An Autumn Event is scheduled for fifth and sixth graders on October 21st from 3:15 to 4:00 pm. This book talk will have an Edgar Allen Poe theme. Refreshments will be served, a scavenger hunt is on tap and there will also be a drawing for a FREE book. We are hoping that this wonderful event with its spooky theme will inspire many children who are getting prepared for the Halloween season.

Please come in and check out the new titles that have been added to the collection. There is nothing better than reading a book on an autumn night.

PROJECT 2012

The Library Renovation Committee will hold an auction in September of 2010. We are asking for volunteers to donate items and services to be auctioned off. Some suggestions are:

1. Unique Experiences such as, giving someone a chance to drive a bulldozer into a soon-to-be demolished building, a ride on a fire engine or in a patrol car, a birthday party at the fire station, hunting or fishing trip with an expert, picnic or dinner party catered by prominent citizens (or especially good cooks!).

2. Dinner for two at a nice restaurant in the area.

3. Tickets to a game of a major sports team or for a day of skiing.

4. A Day of Labor, gardening, raking hay, mending the garden fence, washing windows.

5. Gift baskets with items such as gourmet foods, wines, garden tools, etc,

6 Individual Instruction - how to improve your golf game, learn to play bridge, ski or snowshoe. How to improve your

French conversation, photography, or computer skills.

Please call Renovation Committee Chairperson Marcia Granville (474-7207) or any member of the committee to have your ideas added to our list. THANK YOU!

Reminder:

Keep those returnable bottles and cans coming to C & M Redemption Center - just specify that the money goes to the Library. Those nickels add up quickly and at the same time we benefit our roadsides.



Katelyn Belyea shares a story with her sister and brother while sitting on the toe of the giant athletic shoe in the library

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 Edna Griffith

The Novels of Anne Perry

1979 saw the publication of Anne Perry's first novel featuring Thomas and Charlotte Pitt, a mis-matched couple, according to London's Victorian Era snobbery and Charlotte's parents and friends. After all, a policeman should not marry into "society" and a socialite must never marry below her family's position.

Thomas, as a detective in London, had to deal with all levels of society and sometimes the upper and lower classes were intermingled when murder was committed. Charlotte's connections helped open doors for Thomas as he tried to solve the crimes. The teenager they have taken into their home, Gracie, who was from the darker side of the city, is also helpful with her knowledge and friends.

Being the daughter of a British "Bobby", I read *The Cater Street Hangman* with a personal interest in the police work. Since then, I have read the other twenty-four books in the series and have never been disappointed in Anne Perry's writing. Her plots are interwoven with love, hate, obsession and murder, with just enough well-researched historical events and characters to make them believable.

After the success of the Thomas Pitt novels, Perry introduced William Monk in a new series set in the earlier part of the Victorian Era. Monk is a private detective who also had been in the London police force until an accident resulted in him losing his memory. He now seeks to uncover the truth in cases given to him by his friend, a defense counselor, while struggling to regain his own memory. Also in this series is Monk's wife, Hester, a nurse at the time when wives were expected to be only housekeepers. Her setting up a place to minister to the poor who could not afford doctors reminded me of the Masterpiece Theater series, "Bramwell".

Anne Perry's latest series is based on World War I as she allows us to follow one family's saga during the war to end all wars.

Love, hate and murder are now linked with espionage. Again, the historical accuracy of the events of the day and the hell that was trench warfare made me feel that I was reading history.

Her books are easy to read and are without today's "freedom of speech", shall I say. The twenty-five Pitt novels and the sixteen Monk novels together with the five in the WWI series will make for a good winter's reading.

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

Bagshawe, Tilly/ Sidney Sheldon's *Mistress of the Game*

Barclay, Linwood/ *Fear the Worst*

Brown, Dan/ *The Lost Symbol*

Coel, Margaret/ *The Silent Spirit*

Cussler, Clive/ *Spartan Gold*

Doctorow, E.L./ *Homer and Langley*

Goodkind, Terry/ *The Law of the Nines*

Lewis, Beverly/ *The Missing*

Michaels, Fern/ *The Scoop*

Oates, Joyce Carol/ *Little Bird of Heaven*

Patterson, Richard North/ *The Spire*

Ross, Ann B./ *Miss Julia Delivers the Goods*

Sparks, Nicholas/ *The Last Song*

NON-FICTION

Beck, Glenn/ *Glenn Beck's Common Sense*

Kessler, Ronald/ *In the President's Secret Service*

Murkoff, Heidi/ *What to Expect When You're Expecting*

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

Lisa and Jim Veilleux

Mardi and Alex Pakulski

The Library Lookout is Sponsored by:



**Skowhegan
Savings**

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

Every Wednesday: Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

October 6 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

October 7 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

October 10 Socrates Café at the Blueberry Cupboard, 11 AM

October 12 & 26 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM

October 17 Library Saturday opening hours begin

October 22 Anniversary Celebrations at Skowhegan Savings Bank, 4:30 – 7PM

October 23 Library Night at the Heritage House (Percentage goes to Project 2012)

NOVEMBER

Every Wednesday: Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

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

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

November 5 Friends Executive meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

November 9 & 23 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM

November 14 Socrates Café at the Library, 11 AM

November 14 "Evening With the Stars American Style", Skowhegan Opera House, 7 PM

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, Corilla Hastings
Ex Officio, Mary Hill

Friends officers:

Mary Hill, pres.
Darla Pickett, vice pres.,
Kathy Littlefield, sec. Sherri Vigue, treas.