



The Library Lookout

June 2010

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

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

June is a very busy month at the library. Lots of school groups visit because the nice thing about libraries is, they are open all summer. Mrs. Susi, Mrs. Bilodeau, and Mrs. Wentworth will be bringing their classes to enjoy a story and learn about the Summer Reading Program. The Summer Reading Program is called "Just Ducky About Books" All the details are in Katherine's article inside this newsletter. And remember we still have Story Hour every Wed at 10 am and Toddlertime the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month all summer long.

Town meeting is Monday June 7th at 7pm. Every year the community shows up and votes their support of the library budget. Your vote is very important to us and we are thanking you in advance. With your support we will continue bringing the very best library services to this community. A new study which just came out entitled, "First-ever National Study: Millions of people rely on Library computers for Employment, Health and Education" clearly emphasizes the critical need of public libraries. The study was done by the University of Washington Information School and states "nearly ¾ of those who used the library Internet connections had internet access at home, work or elsewhere. Oftentimes, they needed a faster connection, assistance from a librarian or temporary access in an emergency." In regard to faster connection, the Skowhegan Public Library will be even

faster after an upgrade which will occur sometime this summer. This upgrade will be paid for by a government grant to the Maine School and Library Network.

Summer officially begins on June 21st and what better way to start the summer than a book sale! This is a great opportunity to pick up an armful of paperbacks for relaxing at the camp or on a shady porch. The book sale will be June 21--23 from 11-4pm at the library. There will be a large assortment of books for all ages: Old relics from the attic, classics, current fiction and children's books. Come in and browse around. All proceeds will support the library renovation.

It is no coincidence we are all ducky about books this summer. On June 26 at noon there will be the Great Duck Race of 2010. Have you bought your duck yet?? Ducks cost \$5 and the ducks will race over the falls and down the gorge. First prize is \$100, 2nd prize is a year's pass to Lake George, and there are 3 third prizes of the classic book, "Make Way for Ducklings." Proceeds will benefit the Run of River Project and the Library. The race will begin at noon on Sat. June 26 and can be seen from the Walking Bridge. This event is part of the weekend activities of Riverfest that involves free raft rides down the Kennebec Gorge, music, food and many other festivities for the whole family. See you on the river!

CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Katherine LeBlanc

I'M DUCKY ABOUT BOOKS!

Summer 2010

This year the summer reading program is called **I'M DUCKY ABOUT BOOKS!** For those of you who are familiar with our summer program, **Welcome Back!** For those of you who are not familiar, I hope that you will make the time to join in the fun! The Skowhegan Free Public Library is committed to making your child's summer reading a fun experience. Each child and parent is required to sign a contract with the library confirming how many books your child will read each week for six weeks. After reading those books, and logging the information down, your child will get a prize. Prizes will consist of **FREE** cones from Gifford's Ice Cream, **FREE** Personal Pan Pizza's from Pizza Hut, **FREE** books, or a prize out of the prize box. It is that easy!

You may participate whether you are a family reader or an independent reader. Registration begins on June 18th, and reading may begin on the day of registration.

Additionally, each week there is a **FREE** family performance. The following is this year's schedule:

- June 30 LC Bates presents Amazing Skolls at 1pm
- July 7 Chewonki presents Wildlife and Water at 1pm
- July 14 Somerset County Ext. presents a program on nutrition @ 1pm
- July 21 Mr. Harley Musical Extravaganza @ 1pm @ Coburn Park
- July 28 End of program party @ Lake George 1pm

For more information, or if you have any questions, please call the Skowhegan Free Public Library at 474-9072, and speak with any librarian on staff. You can even check our web site at www.skowhegan.lib.me.us. I look forward to seeing each of you this summer!

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

- Allende, Isabel/ *Island Beneath the Sea*
- Baldacci, David/ *Deliver us from Evil*
- Brown, Rita Mae/ *Cat of the Century*
- Butcher, Jim/ *Changes*
- Clark, Carol Higgins/ *Wrecked*
- Clark, Mary Higgins/ *The Shadow of your Smile*
- Delinsky, Barbara/ *Montana Man*
- Grimes, Martha/ *The Black Cat*
- Gross, Andrew/ *Reckless*
- Hannah, Kristan/ *The Next Best Thing*, pb
- Johansen, Iris/ *Eight Days to Live*
- Lewis, Beverly/ *The Telling*
- McCall Smith, Alexander/ *The Double Comfort Safari Club*
- Macomber, Debbie/ *Hannah's List*
- Michaels, Fern/ *Return to Sender*
- Miller, Sue/ *The Lake Shore Limited*
- Quick, Amanda/ *Burning Lamp*
- Robards, Karen/ *Shameless*
- Woods, Stuart/ *Lucid Intervals*

NON-FICTION

- Mortenson, Greg/ *Stones into Schools*
- Robb, Graham/ *Parisians - An Adventure History of Paris*

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

FOL NEWS

FRIENDS' LIBRARY LAWN SALE

Thanks to the many friends and patrons who donated a great variety of "treasures" to the annual lawn sale on May 22, a total of \$1,052 was added to funds for the benefit of the library. Peggy Lovejoy, Margo Reid and Judee McCarthy met to unpack the boxes and arrange the items prior to the sale, and Pam McDermott and Dottie LaCasse helped to decide on pricing. On Saturday Marcia Granville sold the "best hot dogs in town", while Dottie, Jim and Corrilla handled the sales in the barn. The following Monday Sherri Vigue and John Ackley handled the clean-up, and the barn is once more ready for another year. With this able and willing team of workers, the event was both profitable and fun. THANK YOU to all who contributed to the day.

RENOVATION COMMITTEE NEWS

MOVIE NIGHT AT THE SKOWHEGAN DRIVE-IN

Thanks to the generosity of Douglas Corson, Thursday, June 17 will be "Library Movie Night" at the Skowhegan Drive-In. The movie (title to be announced) will begin at dusk and all gate money will be donated to Project 2012. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. Come and bring the family to one of the few remaining drive-in theaters in the country! What a fun way to support your library!

SEPTEMBER AUCTION

As the summer progresses the Library Renovation Committee will be working diligently on plans for the September 10th auction to be held at the Tewksbury Building on Island Ave. Although we have already received many wonderful items for the occasion, we are still looking for additional donations to help make this a successful fundraiser for Project 2012. Please get in touch with any member of the Renovation Committee or with any member of the library staff to let us know what you would like to donate - such as, handcrafted items, paintings, theme baskets, instruction hours, excursions, gift certificates, etc.

BOOK REVIEW

by Marcia Granville

Summer Hideaway by Susan Wiggs

This book tells the story of one summer in the lives of three people: George Bellamy, his grandson, Ross Bellamy, and George's nurse, Claire Turner. Each of the three has something traumatic to overcome or to face. George has been diagnosed with a fatal disease that leaves him only a few weeks or months to live. He has a list of things he wants to do before he dies: learning to dance, jumping out of a plane, and getting in touch with the brother he hasn't seen in 55 years. Ross has just come home from a two-year deployment as a medevac helicopter pilot in Afghanistan. He must make the adjustment to civilian life while dealing with his grief over his beloved grandfather's illness. Claire is a lady with a past. At the age of seventeen, while living in a foster home, she saw a crime committed. Since then, her life has been in danger and she lives under an assumed name, carrying an escape bag wherever she goes. Now, the foster parents have applied for another foster child. Claire is determined to do what she can to prevent that from happening.

The book sounds horrid, doesn't it? There is so much trouble for everyone that the story could be a maudlin mess, but it isn't. Susan Wiggs makes the characters come to life, showing their courage and even their individual senses of humor. *Summer Hideaway* has a little of everything: suspense, danger, adventure, and romance. I recommend it highly.

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



Skowhegan Savings

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.

Calendar of Events

Every Wednesday, Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

JUNE

June 1 Library Trustees meeting.
June 2 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM.
June 7 Town Meeting, 7 PM.
June 14 & 28 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM.
June 17 "Library Movie Night at the Skowhegan Drive-In", dusk.
June 18 Summer Reading Program begins.
June 21 – 23 Summer Book Sale, 11 – 4.
June 26 Great Duck Race of 2010.
June 30 "Amazing Skulls", 1 PM.

JULY

July 6 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM.
July 7 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM.
July 7 "Wildlife and Water", 1 PM.
July 12 & 26 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM.
July 14 Program on Nutrition, 1 PM.
July 20 "Make Your Own Book", grades 1 – 5, 10 AM.
July 21 Mr. Harley Musical Extravaganza, 1 PM, at Coburn Park.
July 28 End of Reading Program Party, 1 PM, at Lake George.