



# THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT September 2005

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## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

The library continued to be very busy during the month of August. The Summer Reading Program was a big success. This year 142 kids read over 2000 books! At the end of the Summer Reading Program we gave small tokens of appreciation to Lyn Govoni, Tina Burns, Kathy Hughes, and Petra Prokop, our dedicated story time readers who have been coming in to read on Wednesday mornings.

The bar-coding project is moving along very well. I would like to thank Storm and Hunter Nelson, Corilla Hastings, Emily Barney, Pat Spinney, Christine Hadley, Shannon Simmons, Elizabeth Quimby, and Evelyn Doan for their efforts. We have about 400 books entered into our computerized data base at this time.

During the month of August, Hurricane Cleaners shampooed all of the rugs at the library which made the library really look great. Thank you to the Friends who offered to pay for this service.

I would also like to thank The Bangor Savings Bank who donated \$1000.00 to the Children's Room to be used for nonfiction. We will be adding to our collection of state books, American history, endangered animals and countries of the world.

This month we will be getting ready for the **Fall Festival** on September 24 at Coburn Park. The Friends will be having a used book sale. There will be many other community groups and craft tables—The Skowhegan's Woman's club, Elks, our town selectman and women, Country Comfort, Lynn Plourde and lots more. Hope to see you there!

## MORE LIBRARY NEW

By Katherine LeBlanc

There's something new going on in the Children's Room. It's Toddler Time! This is a half-hour lapsit program for 1's and 2's and their caregivers which meets the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Toddler Time is specially suited to our youngest library users with music, finger plays, knee bounces, and of course a lot of board books to look at. No registration is necessary. The next program is Monday September 12th at 10:30 am. Please come by and join the fun!

"Read together, Grow together" was the theme of the Summer Reading Program at the Skowhegan Free Public Library this summer. With 142 children reading and five weeks to read the participation was tremendous. The enthusiastic participants promised to read 2600 books and they all worked very hard to accomplish their goals.

In anticipation of this event the library ordered 300 books and we received a very generous donation of 500 books from former Skowhegan resident Kristine Rinaldi. What a great way to start the summer!

We would like to invite all our patrons to see our tree that is "growing" in the children's room with the names of some of the books that were read this summer. Great job kids!

Our Wednesday Afternoon events were a great success due to the following performers, who must be recognized for presenting wonderful, educational presentations to summer readers of the Skowhegan Free Public Library: Milkweed Puppet Theatre, Ocean Adventures, Desiree Marin, Open Book Players, and Northern Stars Planetarium. Thank you all for doing a fabulous job.

Additionally, the following sponsors must also be thanked, Gifford's Ice Cream, Pizza Hut, McDonalds, PJ's Party Store, Margaret Chase Smith

Library, and the Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library and the Oak Grove School Foundation.

All Summer Readers were eligible to join the Central Maine Library District in the Ride the Rails to Reading Summer Reading Celebration on August 19, 2005 at Boothbay Railway Village. The library gave out free passes. It was an enjoyable family event.

Mark your calendars for the **Skowhegan Community Fall Festival** being organized by the Skowhegan Library on September 24, 2005 from 10-4. Free space is still available for organizations, businesses, crafters, booster groups, PTA and artists. Please call the library at 474-9072 for more information.

#### WISH LIST for the CHILDREN

- Fat Crayola washable markers
- Glue sticks
- Red construction paper
- Green construction paper
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#### NEW ADULT BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY

##### Fiction:

Adler, Elizabeth / *The House in Amalfi*  
Arvin, Reed / *Blood of Angels*  
Beaton, M. C. / *Perfect Paragon*  
Brown, Sandra / *The Chill Factor*  
Burke, James Lee / *Crusader's Cross*  
Clarke, Mary Jane / *Dancing in the Dark*  
Coulter, Catherine / *Point Blank*  
Diamant, Anita / *The Last Day of Dogtown*  
Erdrich, Louise / *The Painted Drum*  
Higgins, Jack / *Without Mercy*  
Hooper, Kay / *Chill of Fear*  
Howard, Linda / *Killing Time*  
Jance, J. A. / *Long Time Gone*  
Kostova, Elizabeth / *The Historian*  
Lowell, Elizabeth / *Always Time to Die*  
Maron, Margaret / *Rituals of the Season*  
Perry, Anne / *Angels in Gloom*  
Posadas, Carmen / *The Last Resort*  
Trigiani, Adriana / *Rococo*

##### Non-Fiction:

Kramer, Peter D. / *Against Depression*  
Levitt, Steven D. / *Freakonomics*  
Shields, Brooke / *Down Came the Rain*  
Soule, Deb / *The Roots of Healing*

#### RENOVATIONS SCHEDULED

At a recent meeting of the Library Trustees, it was voted to begin renovations to the front facade of our beautiful library building. Gerald Drake, a mason from Dixmont, attended the meeting and described the work involved. Drake who has worked on many historical buildings throughout the state, will begin work on our library next spring or early summer. He will grind all mortar joints and repoint them with suitable restoration mortar. He will also replace any broken bricks with suitable restoration bricks. Mr. Drake had high praise for the Skowhegan Library building, and is looking forward to working on it.

When you next visit the library, stop for a few minutes outside and admire the beauty of the building. In particular, notice the semi-circular section of terra-cotta blocks on the upper left front. This section contains the badges and shields of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Army Corps, and various veterans' organizations.

Our library building, which has remained virtually unchanged since its construction in 1889, is truly a prize to be treasured and preserved by residents of Skowhegan.

#### FALL QUILT SHOW

On Saturday, October 15, from 10 AM until 2 PM, the Somerset Samplers Quilters will host a quilt show at the Library. Members of the group will display their recent creations in addition to demonstrating their craft. Door prizes will be awarded. There will be no admission charged.

#### TROUBLE AT TRANQUILITY POND

A Three Act Mystery Play

By Marcia B. Granville

Featuring a stellar cast: including Mary Stuart, Richard Roberts, Iver Lofving, Laura Richter, Melissa Gaspar, Norman Dickey, Shannon Simmons and more.

Come meet the detestable Clifford B. Fowle, his downtrodden wife, Lottie, his daughter, Prue and his ambitious son, Junior.

Why are Bobbie Fischer and Mike Hunter calling on him on a Saturday instead of pursuing their favorite sports?

What does Clifford have against his Prue's boy friend, Eddie?

### Sphere

Why are Clifford and his partner, Anthony Hyde, holding a business meeting in Clifford's home instead of at the office?

#### What is the *Trouble at Serenity Pond*

Come to the performance at the Margaret Chase Smith School at 7:00 p.m. on October 22nd and find the answers to all these questions and enjoy a delicious dessert during the intermission as well. Tickets are \$7.50 each.

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Although it is early yet, The play will require a great deal of volunteer help. Assistance will be needed in the kitchen to serve desserts and to clean up. People will be needed to set up chairs for the performance and stack them after the performance. If interested in helping, sign up at the desk or call Marcia at 474-7207.

### YOUNG ADULT BOOK REVUES

#### *The Supernaturalist*

Eoin Colfer has done it again, and written an exciting and "supernatural" book. *The Supernaturalist* takes place in the future, where orphans are used as human lab rats. The expected life span for such unlucky children is fifteen, and fourteen-year old Cosmo Hill is feeling the pressure to escape or die. After the orphanage bus crashes and he manages to make a getaway, Cosmo joins the strange Supernaturalists—three people who can see the parasites, creatures that suck the life out of human beings. As the Supernaturalists continue to hunt the parasites, they come across a horrible and destructive controversy.

Colfer has a fantastic imagination, and an ironic sense of humor. There is some seriously great imagery in this book, and a "bartoli baby" (a man forever trapped in the body of a six-year old) adds some great funny moments to the story. *Supernaturalist* moves along at a fast pace, making sure never to get boring and lose its audience—which is, of

course, teenagers. The book is great, but not deep or epic enough to interest most adults.

Indicated by the slightly cliff hanger-ish ending, I assume this is the first book in what shows every indication of being another great Colfer series. I look forward to reading the sequels.

by Cara Scozzafava

I enjoyed *Sphere* by Michael Crichton. It was about a futuristic time-traveling ship found at the bottom of the ocean covered with coral. There was a mysterious orb and no one knew the secret of the sphere. The sphere gave the scientists special powers which made amazing things start to happen to the crew.

This book was full of adventure and loaded with suspense. Some parts were funny, like when the crew was attacked by a huge squid. I read this book in one day. I think this book will spark a lot of interest in other people.

by Jasmine Duest

Dragon Books were very popular at the library this year. Two readers thoroughly enjoyed Cornelius Funke's *The Dragon Riders*. *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* was also a hot item.

### NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS

Violet Ferland

Tom and Diane Crowley

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



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# Calendar of Events

## SEPTEMBER

**Every Wednesday** Story and Craft Hour, 10:00 o'clock in the Children's Room  
September 6 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 pm at the Library The public is welcome to attend.  
September 12 Toddler Time 10:30 in the Children's Room  
September 24 Fall Festival 10:00 to 4:00 at Coburn Park  
September 26 Toddler Time 10:30 in the Children's Room

## OCTOBER

**Every Wednesday** Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room  
October 4 Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room  
October 10 Toddler Time 10:30 in the Children's Room  
October 15 Somerset Samplers' Quilt Show 10:00 to 2:00 at the Library  
October 22 *Trouble at Serenity Pond* 7:00 pm at Margaret Chase Smith School  
October 24 Toddler Time 10:30 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, Maine 04976



#### Your Librarians are:

Library Director, Melissa Gaspar,

Assistant Librarian

Françoise LaBonte,

Children's Librarian,

Katherine LeBlanc

#### Your Library Trustees are:

Bill Laney, Warren Shay,

Lee Granville, Toni Jo Blaisdell,

Carol Jarvis and Corrilla Hastings

Ex Officio, Maureen Calder

#### Friends officers are:

Dina Jeannotte, Pres.,

Mary Stuart, Vice Pres.,

Maureen Calder, Sec.

Pam Arsenault, Treas

Marcia Granville, Editor



2006-May

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