



[www.skowheganlib.me.us](http://www.skowheganlib.me.us)

# THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT

## October - December 2007



### A Word from the Editor

It's a brand new year with a brand new start. A snowy start! Here's hoping that, after you get shoveled out, you have time and energy participate in winter sports from snowmobiling to making snowmen.

On another note, it's been a long time since you've seen the Library Lookout, since September, in fact. Several extra curricular activities as well as Christmas projects have kept your editor too busy to keep up with everything. But don't worry, this "Lookout" is extra long in order to get in all the news you may have missed. We'll start with October.

### LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER—

October

By Melissa Gaspar

September was a busy month in the genealogy room. Many people have been coming in to use the Gerald Marble records. We even had a distinguished guest, Mary Marble Burgess, the daughter of Gerald Marble, who was visiting from Oklahoma City in Oklahoma. Another person came from New York to research his family's roots. The person who traveled the furthest came all the way from Australia to research her grandfather who was born in Skowhegan but moved to

Australia as a young man. It is very gratifying to see the genealogy room receiving so much use. This month, on October 17<sup>th</sup> a new class on genealogy research will begin. The class will be taught by Ruth Blood and meet each Wed from 3pm-5m at the Skowhegan Public Library. There is still room in the class. If you would like to sign up, call Melissa at 474-9072.

I hope many people saw the special "Keeping



Mary Marble Burgess visits the Genealogy Room.

Pace with Herb Paradis" program that was exclusively about the library. It aired on channel 11 in September. If you missed it do not despair, we have a copy of the program on the shelf at the library. You may check it out like any other video. The video has a brief overview about the history of the library, its unique architecture, and the proposed renovation to make the library safe and accessible to all. Many thanks to Katie Ouellette and the cast

of Keeping Pace who donated their time and talents to make this show possible. Also, thank you to Lee Granville for being a guest on the show as the library historian.

Bids are due for the window restoration work on Friday Oct 5<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. This will be paid for by a \$10,000 grant we received from the Main Street Skowhegan program. We did not receive any bids on the roof project when we first asked for them so we have extended the bid period until Oct 19<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. The roof project will be paid for by the grant we received from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Another big event is the Antiques Appraisal Fair on Monday Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 10 am-2pm at the library. All proceeds will benefit the Library Renovation Fund. Bring your treasures to see what they are really worth. Suggested donation is \$5 per item or 5 items for \$20. Refreshments will be sold during the event and we would like to thank Hannaford's for their support of this with a \$25 gift card. We will also have used books on sale. Come and enjoy the fun and support the library renovation at the same time.

#### OTHER LIBRARY NEWS

By Katherine LeBlanc

The third annual Skowhegan Community Fall Festival was once again a huge success. With 110 vendors participating and 1500 people milling about, the attendance has more than doubled from 2006. I must thank everyone who supported this event. It truly warms our hearts to know that so many people are as enthusiastic about this event as the staff at the library.

Both Sally's Top Hat, and Bradley's Dance Studio sold out of the food that they were selling. Entertainment was provided by Forest Meader, Debbie Leschinski and Country Comfort, all of whom kept the park alive with music.

Decal Gymnastics had children jumping and running about and the fairy houses made by the Semper Fidelis were a huge success.

Again thank you to all who volunteered and shared in the splendor of fall in Skowhegan.

On a side note, I would like to remind everyone about the Halloween Parade scheduled for October 27th at 10:30 a.m. We will again begin at the Federated Church on Island Avenue and parade through the flat iron district of downtown Skow-

hegan. Any volunteers that could hand out candy for businesses that are unable would be greatly appreciated.

#### SKOWHEGAN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEW RELEASES FOR NOVEMBER 2007

##### Fiction:

Mary Balogh  
Mauve Binchy  
Rita Mae Brown  
Sandra Brown  
Dorothy Cannell  
Tracy Chevalier  
Mary Higgins Clark  
*fore*

Harlan Coban  
Robert Crais  
Deborah Crombie  
Barbara Delinsky  
Joy Fielding  
Lisa Gardner  
Heather Graham  
Sarah Graves  
Carolyn C. Hart  
Jo Hill  
Susan Issacs  
Lisa Jackson  
Kate Jacobs

Pam Jenoff  
Jonathan Kellerman  
Tim LaHaye  
Alexander McCall Smith

Larry McMurty  
David Morrell  
Michael Norman  
Michael Palmer  
Robert B. Parker  
T. Jefferson Parker  
James Patterson  
Anne Perry  
Jonathan Raban  
Karen Robards  
Nora Roberts  
Lisa Scottoline  
Stuart Woods

*Simply Magic*  
*Whitethorn Woods*  
*Puss'n Cahoots*  
*Two Alone*  
*Whitering Heights*  
*Burning Bright*  
*I've Heard that Song Before*

*The Woods*  
*The Watchman*  
*Water Like a Stone*  
*Family Tree*  
*Heartstopper*  
*Hide*

*The Dead Room*  
*Trap Door*  
*Set Sail for Murder*  
*Heart-shaped Box*  
*Past Perfect*  
*Absolute Fear*

*The Friday Night Knitting Club*

*The Kommandant's Girl*  
*Obsession*  
*Kingdom Come*  
*The Good Husband of Zebra Drive*

*When the Light Goes*  
*Scavenger*  
*Commission*  
*The Fifth Vial*  
*High Profile*  
*Storm Runners*  
*Step on a Crack*  
*We Shall Not Sleep*  
*Surveillance*  
*Obsession*  
*Valley of Silence*  
*Daddy's Girl*  
*Fresh Disasters*

## Non-Fiction:

Ishmael Beah *A Long Way Home*  
Jimmy Carter *Palestine: Peace not Apartheid*

Charlotte Chandler *Ingrid Bergman*  
William Cohen *Love in Black and White*  
Stephen Flynn *The Edge of Disasters*  
Charles Hamlin *Life and Times of Hannibal Hamlin*

Ali Hirsi *Infidel*  
Bill O'Reilly *Culture Warrior*  
Richard Preston *The Wild Trees*  
Deborah Rodriguez *Kabul Beauty School*  
Daniel Tammet *Burn on a Blue Day*  
Calvin Trillin *About Alice*  
Lee Woodruff *In an Instant*  
Rosalind Wiseman *Queen Bees and Wannabes*

## VIDEOS

### VHS TAPES:

*The Fellowship of the Rings*

### BOOK REPORT

by Melissa Gaspar

*The Gift* by Richard Paul Evans is a wonderful heartwarming story about a small child and his ability to heal by touch. As more and more people become aware of his amazing gift, the story is propelled to its inevitable end which is full of hope. The book reveals the amazing power of the human spirit and that there is more to life than what we see or touch. This book is a timeless story which is not just for Christmas, but anytime of year.

### Book Report

By Marcia Granville

*Jackdaws* by Ken Follet is the hair-raising tale of a special mission behind enemy lines during World War II. The allied invasion will come soon. Felicity "Flick" Claret has only days to assemble an all woman team and train them well enough to penetrate the German communications center and destroy it. The "Jackdaws", once six in number, are soon reduced to three. The mission seems impossible to complete. Listen to the book on tape for the full impact of the story.

The Antiques Appraisal Fair in October was a huge success. So many vehicles were parked at the bank, although it was Columbus Day, that people thought the bank was open! About 100 patrons turned out, many with several items to be appraised.

It was a cold day that brought customers into the library for hot dogs, coffee and cookies. While there, they had a chance to look over the book sale table and purchase old (or new) favorites.

Best of all the news of the day is that we made \$1000 on the appraisals and another \$120 on food and books. This is a great addition to the renovation fund.

The Library Outlook is Sponsored by



# Skowhegan Savings

## 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.

.....  
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.

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

December began with a very festive Holiday Stroll at the Skowhegan Free Public Library. The Grinch was seen walking about the library and having his picture taken with people. It is his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday this year and we had a special birthday cake to celebrate the event.

There were lots of other tasty cookies, cakes and candy. The Friends of the library were giving away samples of food baked from the Friends cookbooks. There are still cookbooks left. They make great gifts at only \$2.00 each. The Somerset Quilters were selling handmade ornaments to raise money for the library renovation. These ornaments are still for sale and can be seen on the Christmas tree in the library lobby.

Jayne Hart has left her incredibly beautiful Civil War era quilt on display at the library, too. The quilt is being raffled off next year at the Holiday Stroll. We are also selling tickets for an Aran shawl knit by Cathy Lonnquist and a vest knit by Sherri Vigue. The shawl raffle will be drawn on Dec 12 and the vest will be drawn at the Library play sometime early in 2008.

Lorraine Herschkorn was present to do beautiful colored portraits for patrons. She will be donating 15% of her proceeds to the Library renovation as well. Marcia Granville helped many children and their parents make a beautiful pinecone holiday centerpiece.

Every child who came in received a free book thanks to Kristine Rinaldi who donated the books for this event. About 200 people came to the library during the Holiday Stroll.

Meanwhile on the same day, at the Bloomfield Elementary School, Katherine organized a very successful craft fair. About 57 people signed up for tables. The profits from the registration fees will go to support the Summer Reading Program at the library.

I would like to take a moment now to thank everyone who has helped support the library during this year. From the story hour readers, to the Friends, to all the members of the renovation committee, the student volunteers, Genealogy re-

searchers, Aspire, ABLE workers, and you our patrons. Thank you sincerely for your continued support. It has been a wonderful year.

In closing, I would like to wish you all a very happy, healthy and love-filled holiday season.

---

### New Releases for December

Baldacci, David	<i>Stone Cold</i>
Barker, Clive	<i>Mister B. Gone</i>
Bradford, Barbara Taylor	<i>The Heir</i>
Cussler, Clive	<i>The Chase</i>
Enright, Anne	<i>The Gathering</i>
Evans, Richard Paul	<i>Finding Noel</i>
George, Elizabeth	<i>What Came Before</i> <i>He Shot Her</i>
Goodkind, Terry	<i>Confessor</i>
Iles, Greg	<i>Third Degree</i>
Koontz, Dean	<i>The Darkest Evening</i> <i>of the Year</i>
London, Julia	<i>Guiding Light. Jonathan's Story</i>
McCall Smith, Alexander	<i>Love over Scotland</i>
McCullough, Colleen	<i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>
O'Brian, Patrick	<i>The Reverse of the Metal</i>
Patchett, Ann	<i>Run</i>
Patterson, James	<i>Double Cross</i>
Rankin, Ian	<i>Watchman</i>
Robb, J.D.	<i>Creation in Death</i>
Roberts, Nora	<i>Blood Brothers</i>
Rollins, James	<i>Black Order</i>
Rollins, James	<i>The Judas Strain</i>
Rollins, James	<i>Map of Bones</i>
Sebold, Alice	<i>The Almost Moon</i>
Truman, Margaret	<i>Murder on K Street</i>
<b>Non-Fiction:</b>	
Brokaw, Tom	<i>Boom!</i>
Browne, Sylvia	<i>Prophecy</i>
Clapton, Eric	<i>Clapton: an autobiog</i> <i>raphy</i>
Doudera, Victoria	<i>Moving to Maine</i>
Madore, Nelson	<i>Voyages: a Maine</i>
Martin, Steve	<i>Franco-American Reader</i>
Sikov, Ed	<i>Born Standing Up</i>
Terkel, Studs	<i>Dark Victory: the Life of</i> <i>Bette Davis</i>
	<i>Touch and go</i>

## DISCOVERY at SERENITY POND

By Marcia b. Granville

Dessert theater sponsored by  
Friends of Skowhegan Free Public Library



7:00 p.m. on January 26th  
2:00 p.m. on January 27th  
At Skowhegan Area Middle School  
\$8.00 per ticket  
All proceeds benefit the library.

The evening or afternoon of entertainment should be a lot of fun. Not only is there a humorous play to see, but there will be some great door prizes, a 50-50 raffle and dessert to eat during intermission. We also have a great cast with some of our favorite actors, including five youngsters. They are: John Ackery, Lexie Austin, Rick Bonneau, Dave Calder, Bonnie Chamberlain, Desiree Dow, Judith Gamage, Iver Lofving, Bobby Kenniston, Josh Meng, Emily Moore, Darla Pickett, Richard Roberts, Cara Scozafava, Kari Watson, Shelby Watson and Nathan Withee. There are even three characters that never appear on stage, a despicable loan officer, "No-Loan" Jones, and two reporters, "Liar" Pryor and Ms. Scrivener. Please make time to go to the play.

Beginning in February, we will have the "Let's Talk About It", book discussion group. The topic is "Entering Nature" and we will meet for 5 months, once per month to discuss 5 different books: The Tree by John Fowles, Lives of a Cell by Lewis Thomas, Pilgrim at Tinker Creek by Anne Dillard, Desert Solitaire by Edward Abbey, and Arctic Dreams by Barry Lopez. The Colby professor facilitating the series is Michael Burke. The book discussions will be on Thurs. eves from 6:30-8:30 pm Feb 21st, March 27, April 24, May 15th and June 12th. > The program is supported by the Maine Humanities Foundation. Books will be provided. Sign up will be in January 2008 at the library. For more information and to register, call 474-9072 or e-mail [skowlib@skowheganlib.me.us](mailto:skowlib@skowheganlib.me.us)

## Library Renovation Committee (LRC) Report By Melissa Gaspar

The LRC has accomplished a lot in a short period of time. I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful year of accomplishments.

### Some brief statistics:

Newspaper articles since we organized in May 2007: 19

Number of volunteers who have participated regularly: 29

Number of volunteer hours: 1084

Monetary value of donated hours: \$7588.

### In-kind donations:

Digitization of the plans

Thermometer sign

Taxpayers list

Chamber of Commerce list

SAHS students printing services  
\$2,387.00

Number of fundraising events/programs since May 07 12

Amt of revenue raised/received since May 07  
\$5,656.90

### Major accomplishments:

Organization of the committee

Bloomfield Trustees 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary article

Skowhegan Free Public Library article

Solicitation packet of information

Brochure

Customized database to keep tract of donations

Keeping Pace with Herb Paradis program on the library

On-going publicity

Successful fundraisers

Thank you again everyone for a lot of great work done this year. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Melissa Gaspar

PS. Marcia Granville is our new chairperson and the next meeting will be Wed. Feb 6, 2008. We will meet the first Wed of the month at the library.

# Calendar of Events

## JANUARY

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 a. m. in the Children's Room  
January 14 & 28 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room

## FEBRUARY

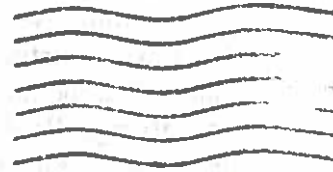
Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 a. m. in the Children's Room  
February 5 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.  
February 6 Library Renovation Committee 6 p. m. at the library. New members and ideas welcomed.  
February 11 & 25 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room  
February 21 "Let's Talk About It" *The Tree* by John Fowles 6:30 at the library

## MARCH

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 a. m. in the Children's Room  
March 4 Library Trustee meeting 6 p.m. at the library. The public is welcome.  
March 10 & 24 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the Children's Room  
March 27 "Let's Talk About It" *The Lives of a Cell* by Lewis Thomas 6:30 at the Library

## 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:  
Maureen Calder, Pres.,  
Mary Stuart, Vice Pres.,  
Marilyn Renfrew, Sec.  
Sherry Vigue, Treas  
Marcia Granville, Editor

2008-May  
James & Corrilla Hastings  
538 Malbon Mills Road  
Skowhegan, Maine 04976