



THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT December 2004

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

by Blynn Currier

Welcome to a busy holiday season. Turkey Day has been completed and we're all gearing up for the festive holidays of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, New Years, etc. After they are over, we can start dieting again.

Beginning with this issue, we'll be including our new additions to the Library Collection. This will include books (adult's and children's), DVD's, audio tapes and/or video tapes. This listing will include not just newly published materials, but also materials new to the library.

This coming year will be a critical time for the library's budget. We'll try to keep you informed about what's happening and how you can be involved.

The last two and a half years have been a challenge to me personally and professionally. Only time can show us what will happen in the future years.

October Releases

Fiction:

Bohjalian, Chris *Before You Know Kindness*
Crombie, Deborah *In a Dark House*
Davidson, Diane Mott *Double Shot*
Hinton, S.E. *Hawkes Harbor*
Isaacs, Susan *Any Place I Hang My Hat*
Jacques, Brian *Rakkety Tam*
Johanson, Iris *Blind Alley*
Karon, Jon *A Light in the Window*
Kellerman, Faye and Jonathon *Double Homicide: Boston/Santa Fe*
Macomber, Debbie *When Christmas Comes*
Michaels, Fern *Family Blessings*
Parker, Robert B. *Melancholy Baby*
Parker, T. Jefferson *California Girl*

Fiction:

Picoult, Jodi *My Sister's Keeper*
Pratchett, Terry *Going Postal*
Roberts, Nora *Northern Lights*
Robinson, Frank M. *The Donor*
Salvatore, R.A. *The Two Swords*
Stabenow, Dana *A taint in Blood*
Straub, Peter, *In the Night Room*
Woods, Stuart *Prince of Beverly Hills*
Zacharius, Walter *Songbird*

Non-fiction:

Alexander, Max *Man Bites Log: Unlikely Adventures of a City Guy*
Bugliosi, Vincent, *Helter Skelter*
Better Homes and Garden *Christmas: Comfort and Joy*
Coulter, Ann *How to Talk to a Liberal*
Coulter, Ann *Treason*
Dahlstrom, Carol Field *Beautiful Christmas*
Evans, Harold *They Made America*
Garratt, Colin *The World Encyclopedia of Locomotives*
Howells. John *Retirement on a Shoestring*
Karsh, Ellen *The Only Grant-writing Book You'll Ever Need*
Olsen Steve *Countdown*
Rule, Ann *Green River, Running Red*



HAPPY, HAPPY
HOLIDAYS



TO YOU
AND YOUR FAMILIES



TEACHERS' RECEPTION

Last January's Teacher's Reception was such a success, that the Library is going to do it again, tentatively on Thursday, January 13th. This time, Middle School and High School teachers will be invited as well as the Elementary School teachers. Wine and cheese will be served by Friends of the Library again this year. There will be free chair massages and free Reiki sessions for the teachers. We will also be offering information on possible field trips within a twenty mile radius of Skowhegan.



Library Halloween Parade 2004

More than 300 children and adults participated.



Parade Participants

We had everything from witches to princesses including Batman and other heroic figures.

Volunteers — a Great Resource

By Maureen Calder

Throughout the past year, we have introduced a few of the wonderful individuals who give their time, talents, and energy to our library either as a volunteer or a trustee. They are the people who offer to read, organize, fundraise, problem solve, create, bake, and share in any number of ways. They are the boosters of a great gift - a *community* library - a place where one can go to relax and read, converse with others, bring children, research, peruse the paper at your own pace, check out the internet, ask questions, make friends, share stories, and much more. Having a top notch staff can make it a great place but having volunteers can make it even better. There's always room for you and whatever you can offer. The library *is* community and it takes each of us to make it the best it can be.

We extend a huge "Thank you" to all. There are still more volunteers to meet beginning with our February issue.

Have a safe, happy, and "warm in family and friends" holiday season. See you at the Skowhegan Free Public Library in 2005.

ATTENTION SANTAS!

The Library cookbook, "Readers' Recipes" is a great stocking stuffer for your favorite cook. Copies are available at the Library, P. J.'s Party Store, Blueberry Cupboard, Alice & Co., the Town Office or from any member of the Friends Executive Board.



STRAND CINEMA GIFT CERTIFICATES

Here's an idea for Christmas giving: gift certificates which include one ticket, popcorn and soda. Price \$6. This is a fund raiser for Literacy Volunteers. If you would like to purchase some of these certificates, please contact Corrilla at 474-3949.

BOOK REVIEW

by Jim Hastings

Great Catherine by Carolly Erickson

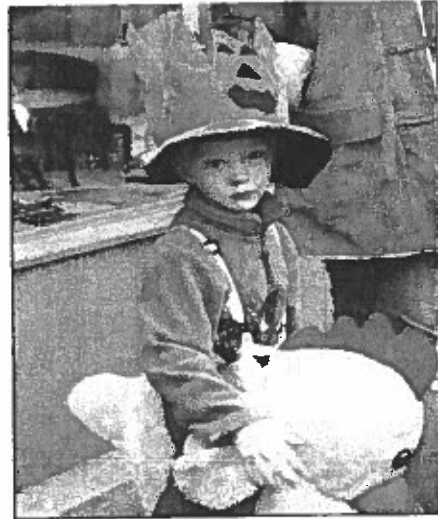
Sophie Augusta Fredericks, born a princess in an obscure German speaking principality, was an unlikely candidate to become the most powerful ruler during the latter half of the 18th century. As a fourteen year old girl, she was summoned by Empress Elizabeth of Russia as a possible wife for her nephew, Grand Prince Peter III. Love had nothing to do with matchmaking by the royals of Europe. Breeding heirs was the only game in town. Selected by Elizabeth to marry Peter, Sophie was given the name of Catherine. After an elaborate marriage, she suffered through twenty years of unbelievable abuse. Upon the death of Elizabeth, Peter ascended the throne, but not for long. Within his first year as Emperor in 1762, he died. The gossip among the royal court suggested Catherine had him poisoned. She assumed the throne and ruled Russia for the next thirty-four years. In a very readable style, Carolly Erickson tells the story of the fascinating life of this powerful leader. I look forward to reading other biographies written by this author.



Balloons for the kids in the Halloween Parade.

This is the last newsletter for 2004. We are taking a little time off for the holidays and will not have a January issue. The next issue will come out for February. Have a safe and happy holiday season and we'll see you in 2005.

New and Renewed Memberships in November
Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Haynes
Pam Arsenault



One small Halloween Parade spook

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 _____

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Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

Wednesdays Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room

December 4 Holiday Stroll Milk and cookie party and crafts for the children as well as live entertainment and refreshments downstairs

December 7 Library Trustees Meeting, 4 pm at the Library The public is welcome to attend.

December 22 and 29 Story Hour cancelled

December 24 and 25th Library closed for Christmas

December 31 Library closed

JANUARY

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room

January 4 Library Trustees Meeting, 4 pm at the Library The public is welcome to attend.

FEBRUARY

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room

Vacation Week: Special Activities will be planned for the children for this week.

February 1 Library Trustees Meeting, 4 pm at the Library The public is welcome to attend.

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 Blynn Currier,

Assistant Librarian Françoise LaBonte,

Children's Librarian Katherine LeBlanc

Your Library Trustees are:

Bill Laney, Warren Shay,

Lee Granville, Toni Jo Blaisdell

and Carol Jarvais

Friends officers are:

Dina Jeannotte, Pres.,

Mary Stuart, Vice Pres.,

Maureen Calder, Sec.

Pam Arsenault, Treas

Editor, Marcia B. Granville