



The Library Lookout

May 2010

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

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

Over the years the library has sponsored Community Events such as The Community Read in 2007. We chose the book, *Once Upon a Town* for its inspirational story of what a town was able to accomplish by working together. The following year, we had a Community Writing Program. We collected original poems and short essays on nature by people of all ages and "published" them in a book called, *Enjoying Nature: Sharing our stories*. If you haven't read it yet, you can check it out at the library.

Last year was the Community Art and Heritage Celebration. Barry Norling created the giant aluminum shoe and Milton Christianson painted historic icons of Skowhegan on the shoe. The shoe combined history and art in an interesting way to create a lasting tribute to the shoe industry and other important historical events. The shoe also promotes healthy activities such as walking and hiking.

This year, the library is promoting a Community Music event focusing on two very prominent Skowhegan residents: Elise Fellows White and Louise Coburn. Elise Fellows White was born in the early 1870's and at a young age showed musical talent. She received an excellent training at the New England Conservatory in Boston and in Vienna, Austria. At about 18 years of age she gave two concerts in Vienna and then embarked on an extensive tour of the United States. In 1897-8 she took a special course at Colby College and won first prize for one of her compositions. During her lifetime, she was a member of the

Daughters of the American Revolution, the Maine Writers Research Club, the Skowhegan Historical Society, The Skowhegan Free Public Library Board of Directors and many other organizations.

Louise Coburn, was the niece of Abner Coburn, and author/editor of *Skowhegan on the Kennebec*, the most detailed history of Skowhegan ever written. She was also a poet.

On Wednesday, May 12th the Friends are sponsoring a program that will allow us to hear a song composed by Elise Fellows White with words written by Louis Coburn. This is a unique and historical event not to be missed. The song to be performed is "A Song to Maine" which was later adopted as the state song of the Daughters of the American Revolution. We will also be celebrating Francoise's 30th anniversary at the library. This program is free and open to the community. Further details inside.

"Make Way for Ducklings!" The Great Duck Race of 2010 will be at noon on Sat. June 26th as part of the Riverfest activities. Ducks are \$5 each and may be purchased at the library. First prize is \$100 and you will be crowned king or queen of Riverfest. 2nd prize is a year's pass to Lake George Regional Park. There will be 3 third prizes of the book, *Make Way for Ducklings*. The Great Duck race will benefit the Run of River Project and the Skowhegan Library Renovation. If you haven't bought a duck yet, please get quacking.... Thank you!

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.
Daria Pickett, vice pres.,
Kathy Littlefield, sec. Sherri Vigue, treas.

Calendar of Events

Every Wednesday, Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM
Knitting Group will not meet May thru August. See you again in September!

MAY

May 4 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
May 5 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.
May 8 Socrates Café, 11 to 1. Topic: Simplicity
May 10 & 24 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM.
May 12 Friends' Annual meeting, reception for Francoise, and music program. Public is welcome.
May 22 Library Lawn Sale at Hastings' barn
May 29-31 Library closed for Memorial Day Weekend.
June 1 Summer Hours will begin: M-F, 10 AM to 6 PM.

JUNE

June 1 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome
June 2 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Katherine LeBlanc

Spring has sprung in the Children's Room! The kids are more excited than ever to be doing spring related crafts during story and craft hour on Wednesday mornings. I want to thank our volunteer readers for doing such a fantastic job each month for the kids. We are very lucky to have Kathy Hughes and Tina Burns as part of our story hour volunteers. New to our volunteer readers are two long -time library patrons who have come forward to help in the Children's Room. Carrie LaCroix and Diane Godin will also be joining the rotation of readers in May. Thanks to all of our volunteers for helping to keep the library running so smoothly.

The schedule for the 2010 Summer Reading Program is shaping up nicely. It looks like we are going to have plenty of fun once again this year. Please watch your child's backpack for more information, or visit the library's web site at skowlib@skowhegan.lib.me.us.

If you are a member of the social networking site Facebook, please become a fan of the Skowhegan Free Public Library. This will give you instant updates on all the programs and events at the library at your fingertips.

NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS

- Petra and Oto Prokop
- Evelyn Perry
- Claire and Chris Perkins
- Mali Bailey and Iver Lofving
- Lynda and Tom Quinn
- David Barter
- GFWC Semper Fidelis
- Maxine and Phil Russakoff
- Kathy and Bob Dorko
- Janet and Elton Powers
- Jayne and Mark Fortin
- Margo and Will Reid
- Peggy Lovejoy

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

- Berg, Elizabeth / *Last Time I Saw You*
- Bannister, Jo / *Liars All*
- Box, C.J. / *Nowhere to Run*
- Chiaverini, Jennifer / *Aloha Quilt*
- Coben, Harlan / *Caught*
- Evans, Richard Paul / *Walk*
- Fforde, Katie / *Wedding Season*
- Graham, Heather / *Killing Edge*
- Harris, Gardiner / *Hazard*
- Jackson, Lisa / *Without Mercy*
- Johnson, Marilyn / *This Book is Overdue*
- Kellerman, Jonathan / *Deception*
- Larsson, Stieg / *Girl Who Played With Fire*
- Lynds, Gayle / *Book of Spies*
- Mayes, Frances / *Every Day in Tuscany*
- Meacham, Leila / *Roses*
- Michaels, Fern / *Game Over*
- Perry, Anne / *Sheen on the Silk*
- Peters, Elizabeth / *River in the Sky*
- Steel, Danielle / *Big Girl*
- White, Randy Wayne / *Deep Shadow*

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

FOL NEWS

Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Library's annual meeting will be held on May 12 at the library. A short business meeting will be held at 5pm for the election of officers. All members of the Friends are invited to attend this meeting and cast their votes.

A presentation ceremony will follow at about 5:30 to honor Françoise Labonte's 30 years of service to the community.

The evening will continue with entertainment by a very talented trio of musicians, Maryjo Carlsen, Jane Parker and David Hovey performing a piece written in the 1900's by Abner Coburn's niece and dedicated to the Daughters of the American Revolution. Refreshments will be served.

Don't miss this spectacular evening at the library. Everyone welcome!

Library Lunch Sale

Thanks to the efforts of many willing workers, the annual Library Lunch Sale was a roaring success! The following people sold, created and delivered 251 delicious (!) lunches: Darla Pickett, Mary and Lyn Hill, Carol Jarvais, Sherri Vigue, Judee McCarthy, Bob Landry, Maureen Calder, Margo and Will Reid, Pam McDermott, Peggy Lovejoy, Jeanne Shay, Marcia Granville, Christine Smith, Corilla and Jim Hastings, and the many bakers of homemade desserts. THANK YOU!

A special thanks also goes to NORTH STAR ORCHARD that donated all the beautiful apples that went into each bag.

A total of \$1640 after expenses was added to the Friends of the Library funds to be used for future library projects and purchases.

Remember the Library Lawn Sale on May 22. We need saleable items of all kinds. Please deliver to Hastings' barn (474-3949), or small items may be left at the library.

BOOK REVIEW

By Melissa Gaspar

The Secrets of Simplicity: Learn to live better with Less by Mary Carlomagno is a treasure of simple wisdom that gently guides the reader on a journey of self discovery and rediscovery. I found this book just as I was beginning my spring cleaning and determined to de-clutter my home and desk. It was perfect timing. The chapter titles of Release, Simplify, Treasure, Focus, Invest, Discover and Thrive each had many engaging exercises that encouraged the reader to not only clean out your closets, but "Find your own Walden Pond" or "Uncover your dreams and make your dreams possible." Drawing from diverse traditions such as Native American spirituality, yoga, folklore, and Asian philosophies, the book was full of profound yet simple truths. You do not read this book as much as interact with it. The beautiful illustrations by Andrea Cobb added another dimension of peace and beauty. This book was a unique read full of heart and soul. "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." This famous quote by Lao-Tse is an invitation. Reading this book is a step towards consciously redefining your goals and priorities and finding time to just breathe and be peaceful. A gem of a book!

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



**Skowhegan
Savings**