



The Library Lookout

June 2004 Tel: 474-9072

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Blynn Currier

The library is getting ready for a busy Summer Reading Program with six exciting performances for the youngsters. Two performances, July 14th and August 18th, require pre-registration. Sign up will begin on July 1st.

In order to take part in the Summer Reading Program, your child must have a library card from the Skowhegan Free Public Library.

The adult section of the library has been completely reclassified, except for the Genealogy section. The library staff and volunteers will be putting the collection in the cataloging program. This will be a long and tedious process.

As summer comes, I'm anxiously waiting to see the architectural plans for a possible addition to the library. We have done a feasibility study for space requirements to meet state recommendations.

June 18th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., the Friends of the Library are sponsoring a dance at the Community Center for grades 5-8. This will be the last dance of the year. All proceeds will benefit the library. Any person willing to volunteer just needs to call the Library.

The library staff would like to welcome the new slate of officers to the Skowhegan Friends of the Library, Dina Jeannotte, President, Mary Stuart, Vice President, Pam Arsenault, Treasurer and Maureen Calder, Secretary.

NOTICE

There will be no FOL newsletter in your mailboxes next month. The Library Lookout comes out ten times a year, omitting the months of January and July. Your next newsletter will be the August issue.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Katherine LeBlanc

This year's Summer Reading Program is called "Good Reads, Good Deeds". Each participant is responsible for deciding how many books he or she can read each week, for seven weeks. If the weekly quota is completed, a prize will be awarded. This year's prizes include Gifford's Ice Cream coupons, MacDonald's coupons, Pizza Hut personal pan pizza coupons, and a treasure chest full of prizes. Additionally, I will also ask each participant to do one good deed a week. Anything as small as opening the door for someone is acceptable.

We are currently signing children up for this year's program through July 9th. Readers can begin recording their books on July 12th and completing the program on August 27th.

Additionally, the Skowhegan Free Public Library will be joining in the "First Annual Summer Reading Celebration" at the Boothbay Railway Village. All children participating in the summer reading program will receive free admission to the Railway Village on Friday, August 20th.

Also, Fort Western has generously offered free admission to all summer reading participants and their immediate families from July 4th through Labor Day 2004.

The Portland Sea Dogs have again offered us free tickets for the summer reading program participants. I will post this info as soon as possible when I receive the tickets, and the dates.

As you can see the kids can have loads of fun just by reading a book! For answers to any questions that you may have, please call the Library at 474-9702.

FOL ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library was held on May 12. Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were accepted, and a Financial Overview for the fiscal year (May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2004) was presented. It was pointed out that the Friends donated just under \$9000 to the Library during that time period. Fund Raisers now in progress include the Book Sale, the Cook Book, the June 18th dance for grades 5 through 8, and the Empire Falls quilt auction.

An amendment to the bylaws was approved which allows for more flexible scheduling of FOL meetings. During the last year, the Friends have been much more involved with helping the Library Staff with programs. It was decided that having additional programs during Friends meetings had become unnecessary. Article 6 of the bylaws now states that "This organization shall conduct a regular business meeting annually in May. Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the officers or at the request of the members", and that "The Executive Board shall hold a minimum of five meetings a year".

Recognition and thanks were given to members of the FOL Executive Board and to special volunteers Marcia Granville and Kathy Hughes. Phil Russakoff presented the slate for new officers. Elected were Dina Jeannotte, president; Mary Stuart, vice president; and Pam Arsenault, treasurer. Maureen Calder will continue as secretary.

Outgoing President, Corilla Hastings was surprised with the presentation of gifts from the Friends of the Library and from the Library Staff. The Bloomfield Trustees awarded her a Certificate of Appreciation for all her hard work and dedication to the Library.

After the business meeting, David Calder gave a program of folk songs enjoyed by all.



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2004 SUMMER PROGRAMS

Schedule of Performers

July 14 Rhythm Inlet presenting "A World of Drums: the magic of rhythm for the whole family!" Sign up is necessary, limit of 35 people. This group uses authentic, handmade instruments. This program is for all ages, abilities and challenges. Learn about and play a collection of exotic drums and percussion instruments. Showtime 1:00 p.m.

July 21 Joe Scazzofava, Magician. Joe has donated his time in previous years, most recently at the Renaissance Faire. Joe does a variety of magic tricks. Show time 1:00 p.m.

July 28 Monica Grabin. Monica performs a singing history program for all ages. She performs songs and tells tales that will pique their interest. Songs of pioneers, immigrants, women, children, workers on the railroads, in mines, factories and sweatshops. Come sing along and be swept up in the drama of her tales. Show time 1:00 p.m.

August 11 Judy Pancoast Kids Pop. Kid pop is a family concert that promotes literacy through music workshops. Judy's event is filled with upbeat, original music. Show time 1:00 p.m.

August 18 Northern Stars Planetarium. This presentation has been funded by the Margaret Chase Smith Library, and will be held at the Library itself due to space constraints. This inflatable star theatre features special effects and a sound system. Space is limited, and sign up is necessary. Show time 1:00 p.m.

August 25 Annie Wenz performs Music of the World. Annie is a traveling folk artist who demonstrates instruments and songs from around the world. This will be our year-end party. Audience participation with percussion and indigenous instruments is key to this program. Show time 1:00 p.m.

LITERACY VOLUNTEER SPAGHETTI SUPPER

There will be a spaghetti supper on Friday, June 4 from 5 to 6:30 at the Elks Club on Silver Street in Skowhegan. This event will be sponsored by the Literacy Volunteers of Franklin and Somerset Counties.

Following the supper, the Somerset Community Orchestra, under the direction of Margie Saucier, will play a variety of selections.

Book Review

by Kathy Hughes

Whistle For a Wind by Elisabeth Ogilvie

Because my favorite Maine author is Elisabeth Ogilvie, I am glad that Down East Press is reprinting some of her books, including the Bennett Island Series. Her latest two reprints are in a single volume - *Whistle For a Wind* and *How Wide the Heart*. Of these, I chose *Whistle For a Wind* to review, since it is, as far as I know, the first book in the Bennett Island Series.

Whistle For a Wind takes place around 1820, when citizens are trying to have Maine become separated from Massachusetts and to become a state on its own. As a matter of fact, some of the island people are involved in working for this goal. Jamie Bennett, head of his family since his father was captured by a British Press Gang, wishes he could help. Instead he must work to keep the family together. But he does find himself drawn into finding out who the "Wreckers" are, the ones who are luring ships to the rocks in order to get their cargo. From here the story goes on - the mystery continues, a little romance for Jamie, and a friendship with the new schoolmaster. The "Wreckers" are found out and a mysterious man appears, whom Jamie knows immediately.

This book would interest those who like historical fiction, especially about Maine, and those already acquainted with Elisabeth Ogilvie's books. Her writing style of attention-getting descriptions and sometimes mysterious themes has always kept my attention and I have enjoyed her books over the years very much.

JUNE DANCE

On June 18 from 6 to 8:30, the Friends are sponsoring a dance at the Community Center for students in the 5th through 8th grades. This will be the last dance of the school year, so we're hoping for an enthusiastic response. All proceeds will benefit the Library.

BOOK SALE

In spite of rainy weather, the Book Sale on May 22 and 23 was successful, resulting in a profit of \$710.95 to benefit the Library. Willing volunteers at the event included Marcia Granville, Ben Moore, Mary Stuart, Kathy Hughes, Pam Arsenault, Dottie

LaCasse, Maureen Calder, Jane Brackett and Corilla Hastings. Hot dogs, coffee, dessert treats, popcorn, and kids' grab bags were sold in addition to the books. Library events were also promoted as Katherine had provided lists of Library Summer Programs to go inside each grab bag.

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS

Friends of Skowhegan Free Public Library new and renewed memberships received during May include the following:

- Kathy and Bob Dorko
 - Diane and Tom Crowley
 - Corrilla and Jim Hastings
 - Elizabeth Bisson
 - Maxine and Phil Russakoff
 - Marilyn and Roger Renfrew
 - Cynthia and Al Laiho
 - Ruth Button
 - David Richards
 - Elinor Clark
 - Mary Stuart
 - LaNita Earline Atkinson
 - Vi Ferland
 - Miriam Malloy
 - Dot and Gerald LaCasse
 - Jean Butler
 - Thelma Butler
 - Semper Fidelis Club
- THANK YOU!**

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 Elm Street, Skowhegan, Maine 04976

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Tel.# _____
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