



THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT MAY 2005

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

A lot of exciting things are happening at the library this month. The new web site is up and running. Take a look at www.skowhegan.lib.me.us. Some of the pages are still under construction, but I hope to have them finished very soon. If you have any suggestions for the website, I would be very interested to hear them.

The interior painting has been completed and the library has a fresh clean look--thanks to the Friends who paid for the labor, Aubuchon Hardware who donated the paint, The Dove Society who donated money for painting supplies, and Dan Coyle who did the painting.

New rocking chairs purchased by the Friends have created a cozy atmosphere in our reading room. A new magazine rack, and a new children's video display case, also donated by the Friends, have helped create a more open and spacious feeling to the library. Because the library has such beautiful fireplaces, we are working to make them more visible to the public.

I hope many will stop by the night of our open house on Wednesday, May 11th 5:30-7 pm to see the new look. Everyone is invited to this special event. Come enjoy wine and refreshments and see the renovations for yourself.

I would also like to thank Ed Matthieu and his crew of students from SRVC for their work on April 28th to complete the library's electrical upgrade. Along with the work on the physical structure, we have added more than 50 new titles to the adult collection and about 50 new titles to the Children's Room.

During April school vacation 84 students enjoyed the "United Nations Crafts Around the World" event. Thank you to the Semper Fidelis group who donated money for craft materials for this program.

Katherine LeBlanc the Children's Librarian has been busy visiting the schools. She recently visited North Elementary School and presented a Health and Wellness program to 273 students. Earlier this month many children from the Skowhegan Nursery School visited the library to listen to stories read by The Cat in the Hat--

(otherwise known as Katherine LeBlanc)

There is something else new in the Children's Room--frog eggs! Come by and see if they have hatched into tadpoles.

Some of Our New Books

Large Print Books:

Ray, Jeanne

Eat Cake

Roddy, Lee

Yesterday's Shadows

*You are cordially invited to a
Wine and Cheese Party at
The Skowhegan Free Public Library
9 Elm Street
Wed. May 11th from 5:30 to 7 pm
Come meet the new director, Melissa Gaspar,
and see the beautiful renovations sponsored by
The Friends of the Skowhegan Library.*

FICTION:

Barr, Nevada	<i>Hard Truth</i>
Berg, Elizabeth	<i>The Year of Pleasures</i>
Block, Lawrence	<i>All the Flowers Are Dying</i>
Clark, Mary Higgins	<i>No Place Like Home</i>
Connelly, Michael	<i>Murder in Vegas</i>
Finder, Joseph	<i>Company Man</i>
George, Elizabeth	<i>With No One as Witness</i>
Kidd, Sue Monk	<i>The Mermaid Chair</i>
LaHaye, Tim	<i>The Rising</i>
McEwan, Ian	<i>Saturday</i>
Michaels, Fern	<i>Pretty Woman</i>
Mitchard, Jacqueline	<i>The Breakdown Lane</i>
O'Nan, Stewart	<i>The Good Wife</i>
Pearson, Ridley	<i>Cut and Run</i>
Perry, Anne	<i>Long Spoon Lane</i>
Picoult, Jodi	<i>Vanishing Acts</i>
White, Randy Wayne	<i>Dead of Night</i>
Wiggs, Susan	<i>Table for Five</i>
Woods, Stuart	<i>Two-dollar Bill</i>

NON-FICTION

Boigra, Steve	<i>Courtroom 302</i>
Canseco, Jose	<i>Juiced</i>
Crier, Catherine	<i>Deadly Game</i>
Gladwell, Malcolm	<i>Blink: the power of thinking without thinking</i>
Fonda, Jane	<i>My Life So Far</i>
Scee	<i>NH Bragg & Sons</i>
Shellenbarger, Sue	<i>Breaking Point</i>



Here is one of the new rocking chairs provided by the Friends. It is beside the beautiful fireplace in the Reading Room. Above the fireplace is a list of the Skowheganmen who lost their lives in the Civil War.

MORE LIBRARY NEWS

By Katherine LeBlanc

Our Summer Reading Program is called "Read Together, Grow Together" this year. We'll have more details for you next month.

This summer's Wednesday Afternoon Programs are all lined up. Come join us for fun with the following events:

July 13 - Milkweed puppet theatre

July 20 - Ocean adventure

July 27 - Open Book Players

August 3 - Desiree Marin, Story teller

August 10 - Northern Stars Planetarium

Some CHILDREN'S NEW TITLES

The Good Dog by Avi

Jenny and the Cat Club by Esther Averill

Tough to Tackle by Matt Christopher

Girl in a Cage by Jane Yolen

Thunder from the Sea by Joan Hiatt Harlow

Drowned Wednesday by Garth Nix

The Seeing Stone,

At the Crossing Places and

King of the Middle March by Kevin Crossley Holland

Our Newest Library Trustee

by Maureen Calder

As one of the founding members of Skowhegan's Friends of the Library, Corrilla Hastings has donned many hats.

The Friends group for our library was established in 1998 and is now in its seventh year. During this time, Corrilla has served as president and as treasurer. As an officer and a member, she has played an active role in every way possible. Corrilla has organized and/or worked on such fundraising events as the Library Lunches, Art and Garden Tour, Treasures from the Attic, library's barn sale (Hastings' Barn) during the annual Six Mile Yard Sale, the creation of the Empire Falls Quilt, the Friends cookbook, and many book sales just to name a few. She has been active with library events such as the Halloween Parade, Holiday Stroll at the library, the Teachers' Reception, Renaissance Faire, Kids U.N. Day, activities involving the summer reading program, and has participated as a story teller during weekly story hour times. Always willing to say

“yes”, Corrilla has opened her home and made her share of refreshments when called upon.

We congratulate her now for her appointment to the Bloomfield Board of Trustees and the Library Trustees where she will undoubtedly continue to put her efforts, abilities, and talents towards the future of our library. Congratulations, Corrilla from the “Friends”.

Meet a Volunteer
By Maureen Calder

A man of many talents, Scott LeBlanc, is an A+ volunteer with the Skowhegan Free Public Library. Scott, who calls Skowhegan home, has a house full. He lives here with his wife, Katherine (our Children’s Librarian), stepchildren, Sarah, Meghan, and Sam, with his own daughter, Chelsea, spending time and rounding out the crew on a regular basis.

Many of you may know him as the lead singer and guitarist of the popular country music band “Country Comfort”. He also plays now and then with a group called, “Midlife Crisis.” He’s the young guy in that group. With “Country Comfort”, he has entertained at the Eagles Club, Elks, Fox Den, Log Days, and Moonlight Madness. He thoroughly enjoys his music and the pleasure it brings people.

When Scott is not spending time with family, playing his music, or on a rare occasion playing a little golf, he is occupying himself with a job he loves. With a CADC (Certified Alcohol and Drug Certificate), he is a fulltime counselor at Discovery House in Waterville. Although he can have as much as a fifty person case load, and spends time between group sessions and one on one meetings, he finds this job very rewarding. He is “a people person”. Prior to his work in this field, he had earned an associates degree in business and was a working manager at Oaks and Parkhurst. But his work in counseling is the area he wants to be in. As of November, he will be eligible to open his own private practice.

With so much going on in his life, Scott has still found time to be a much appreciated volunteer at the library. Not only has he provided the library with the sounds of his musical talents, but

he has also made himself available for many needed repairs even at a moments notice: fixing windows, working on the furnace, mopping up leaks, figuring out computer glitches, and that’s not all! He has been there at a moment’s notice to grab a camera and take pictures of events, grab a shovel after a snowstorm, delivered many library lunches, and shows up to assist with many of the library events.

Scott says he went to the library as a kid and now as an adult truly realizes what it involves to run a successful library. Being involved now has made him more aware of the importance of activities provided, books needed, and much more. He feels that “children should be involved, parents need to get involved, be more aware it’s there. Town officials and other people need to get involved.”

We are fortunate that you chose to GET involved, Scott, and we truly thank you for all you do.

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



NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS

Rod & Renee Worster and family
Rod’s cycle and RV

Calendar of Events

MAY

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

May 3 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 pm at the Library The public is welcome to attend.

May 11 Library Open House 5:30 to 7 pm. Please come, bring a friend and stay for the meeting.

May 11 Friends of the Library annual meeting 7 pm at the Library

May 21 Library Lawn Sale at Hastings's barn on the Malbons Mills Road

May 30 Library closed for Memorial Day

JUNE

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

June 7 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 pm at the Library The public is welcome to attend.

JULY

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

July 13 Milkweed Puppet Theater

July 20 Ocean Adventure

July 27 Open Book Players

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 Jarvais and Corrilla Hastings

Friends officers are:

Dina Jeannotte, Pres.,

Mary Stuart, Vice Pres.,

Maureen Calder, Sec.

Pam Arsenault, Treas

Marcia Granville, Editor