



THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT February 2006

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

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

The Skowhegan Free Public Library has gotten off to a great start this year. John Clark from the Maine State Library came and uploaded more than 10,000 records into an online public access catalog. You will soon be able to view some of the books that we own in Skowhegan when you go to Maine Info Net in search for books. We are about 2/3 the way to having all of the items in our library put into the computerized catalog. We hope to be using the bar code scanners for checking books in and out by April of this year. After looking at our yearly statistics for 2005 it was interesting to note that on average 500 more people used the library each month in 2005 than 2004 and about 180 more items were checked out each month. It is great to know that our circulation and patronage are increasing. One busy day in January 172 items were checked out!

Jan 8-14th was the Maine State Library week. This year the theme was "What's so Marvelous about MARVEL—Maine's Virtual Library?" MARVEL is an online collection of very reliable resources that are available free through the Maine School and Library Network. The Skowhegan Library participated by highlighting the MARVEL databases and sponsoring an online scavenger hunt. If you would like to know more about MARVEL just come in the library and we would be happy to show you how to use it for research or personal interests.

On January 17th the library celebrated the 300th anniversary of the birth of Ben Franklin. We had a cake with a large \$100 bill and ice cream for all. There was a display of many of Ben's accomplishments and books about him. One book, entitled "Benjamin Franklin : in search of a better world," was donated to the library by the John Templeton Foundation in honor of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary 1706-2006. It is an especially beautiful and detailed book and you can find it in the Reference section of the library.

The Skowhegan Library is now displaying an interesting poster art collection which was sponsored by the Maine Alternative Agriculture Association to promote their new initiative to "Eat Smart-Eat Local" in support of Maine farmers. This colorful artwork will be on display in the library's Memorial Room until March 1st, after which it will be traveling around the state of Maine all year to help raise awareness of Maine farms and farming families. Come in and see the winning poster and all the other works of art. There is more information about this project at the library.

Ruth Blood is offering her Genealogy classes again. The first class began on January 25th. The classes meet on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3 pm. There is still time to join. If you are interested please call the library at 474-9072.

February is a good time to read a heart-warming book. We would be happy to help you find something good.

Sincerely,
Melissa

MORE LIBRARY NEWS

By Katherine LeBlanc

Toddler time seems to be picking up more and more little ones. With Melissa's enthusiasm the children seem to live for this wonderful program. Our instruments are in and the children are jingling and shaking and making fun noises. Wednesday story hour continues as well to bring in our faithful moms and children. What a great way to spend time with your child whether at Toddler Time or Story Hour. We are looking for volunteer readers for Wednesday mornings, if you are interested please call the library at 474-9072.

During February Vacation, the week of February 20th we will have a do it yourself craft each day in the children's room. Parents are welcome to bring the children in to complete a craft and have some fun.

We have some new books in the children's room. Several "Sammy Keyes" adventures, as well as Lemony Snicket #12, and Knife of Dreams by Robert Jordan.

NEW RELEASES (January)

Fiction:

Cookson, Catherine *The Cultured Handmaiden*

Gibbons, Kaye *The Life All Around Me* by Ellen Foster

Gordimer, Nadine *Get a Life*

Iles, Gregory *Turning Angel*

LaHaye, Tim / *The Regime*

McNaught, Judith *Every Breath You Take*

Roberts, Nora *Red Lily*

Non-Fiction:

Goodwin, Doris Kearn *Teams of Rivals*

Grogan, John *Marley and Me*

Harphaw, Wendy S. *Happiness in a Storm:*

Facing Illness and Embracing Life as a Happy Survivor

Risen, James *The Secret History of the CIA and the Bush Administration*

Sobol, Dava *Planets*

Large Print Books:

Brown, Sandra

Long time Coming

Grippando, James

Got the Look

Hannah, Kristin,

Comfort and Joy

Johansen, Iris

On the Run

The library has a collection of 20 Large Print titles on loan from the state library.

NEW RELEASES (February)

Fiction:

Atwood, Margaret *The Tent*

Auster, Paul *The Brooklyn Follies*

Beauman, Sally *The Sisters Morland*

Bradford, Barbara T. *Just Rewards*

Braun, Lillian Jackson *The Cat Who Dropped a Bombshell*

Cornwell, Bernard *The Pale Horseman*

Fairstein, Linda *Death Dance*

Fielding, Joy *Mad River Road*

Godwin, Gail *Queen of the Underworld*

Gregory, Philippa *The Constant Princess*

Lescroart, John *The Hunt Club*

McGarrity, Michael *Nothing But Trouble*

Oates, Joyce Carol *The Female of the Species*

Robb, J.D. *Memory in Death*

Stablenow, Dana *Blindfold Game*

Non-Fiction:

Risen, James *State of War*

Please Note: The Library will follow the MSAD 54 weather alerts. If school is cancelled, the library will be closed for the day.

BOOK REVIEW

By Maureen Calder

Blessed Are The Cheesemakers

By: Sarah-Kate Lynch

If you've never experienced the magic allure of Ireland, this is your chance to visit a small corner of it. And, if you like cheese, this will tempt your taste buds.

Joseph Corrigan and Joseph Feehan (better known as Corrie and Fee) are the best of the best in cheese making. They are known world over for their variety of specialty cheeses made at their Coolarney House in County Cork. This much people know about them. What they don't know about are the secrets of their amazing cheese or of the place where it's created. One of those secrets, just to whet your appetite, is the fact that the cows are milked by pregnant milkmaids to the strains of the "Sound of Music". These two colorful characters are joined in their story by the aforementioned milkmaids, a housekeeper, a long lost granddaughter, and a wee bit more to add to the assortment.

It's lighthearted and warm and goes great with a cup of hot tea. If you're in the mood for some smiles of Irish sunshine and some tears of Irish dew during a restful weekend or a stormy winter day then Coolarney House in County Cork is where you want to be. Slainte !

New and Renewed Members since November

Shirley Bastien, Davida Barter, Elizabeth Bisson, Mrs. Mary Burgess, Ruth Button, George and Elaine Cannell, Thomas and Margo Carmines, Kathy and Bob Dorko, Jeff and Kathy Evans, Marjorie Fletcher-Quirion, N. Bruce Haynes and Elizabeth, Patricia Horine, Virginia Jordan, Al and Cindy Laiho, The Lambkes, Alice Leavitt, Irene Magoon, Judith McCarthy, Mardi and Alex Pakulski, Chris and Claire Perkins. Janet and Elton Powers, David Richards, Mait and Sylvia Richardson. Will and Margo Reid, and Alton Whittemore. Thanks everyone!

The Library Lookout is sponsored by



LIBRARY LAWN SALE

Winter is the perfect time to take a look at that unused "stuff" in your attic, basement or garage, and to clean out those closets and cupboards! Please donate your unwanted items in saleable condition to the annual Library Lawn Sale. You may bring your donations any time to the the Library or to Hastings' barn on the Malbons Mills Road. We're looking for furniture, toys, games, tools, dishes, glassware, clothing (especially children's), baby equipment, books, hobby materials, decorations, etc. The date for the sale this year is Saturday, May 20, and as always, all proceeds will benefit the Library.

PREVIEW SALE

Cut out this coupon and come to the Hastings Farm on Malbons Mills Road. Help price and set up items for the Library Lawn Sale on May 19th to be eligible for the Library Lawn Sale Preview Sale. Helpers will be able to purchase choice bargains that night before the sale officially begins on May 20th.

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.

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
February 7 Library Trustee meeting, 6 pm. The public is welcome to attend.
February 9 Knitting for the Heart and Soul 6:30 to 8:30
February 13 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room
February 21-25 Drop in Craft Time Any time of day in the Children's Room
February 27 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room

MARCH

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
March 7 Library Trustee meeting, 6 pm. The public is welcome to attend.
March 9 Knitting for the Heart and Soul 6:30 to 8:30
March 13 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room
March 27 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room

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
Ex Officio, Maureen Calder
Friends officers are:
Dina Jeannotte, Pres.,
Mary Stuart, Vice Pres.,
Marilyn Renfrew, Sec.
Sherry Vigue, Treas
Marcia Granville, Editor
Editor, Marcia B. Granville

2006-May
James & Corrilla Hastings
538 Malbon Mills Road
Skowhegan, Maine 04976

