



THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT June 2006

www.skowheganlib.me.us

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

Did you ever wonder how many public libraries there are in the state of Maine? Well, according to the Maine State Library's latest statistics (2004) there are 268 public libraries. Of these libraries only 34 have more than 5 computers available for the public. Skowhegan has 8 computers so we are in the top 12%. About half of the public libraries in Maine have websites and Skowhegan is one of them. In 2004 more than 5 million people visited their public libraries and checked out an average of 1.5 items. In 2005, the Skowhegan Public Library had 18,862 people visit and 28,619 items were checked out. This averages 1.5 items per person per visit, which is exactly the same as the state average. Just a few interesting facts I thought people would enjoy.

The Skowhegan Public Library is getting ready for another big book sale on **Monday, June 19th** from 11 am-5 pm. We have a lot of adult fiction and children's books. Prices will be \$1.00 for hardcover, .50 for paperbacks and .25 for children's. Gift quality books will be \$2.00. June 19th will also be the first day that children can sign up for the Summer Reading Program. **On Friday June 30th** at 10:30 am the "Old Time Radio" Club will have its first meeting. No experience necessary. Just come and have fun. We will be reading some of the funniest scripts. If you would like more information call Melissa at 474-9072. Hope to see you there.

Melissa

Just a reminder:

We are now on our Summer Schedule. The library is open Monday through Friday 10 am- 6 pm. It is closed on Saturday.

Toddler Program: 6 mo.-3 years old.

2nd and 4th Mondays 10:30 am

June 12th and June 26th

Story Hour and Crafts: Wednesdays at 10 am.

OTHER NEWS

By Corrilla Hastings

LAWN SALE

The rains stopped just in time for the May 20 Library Lawn sale and, from early morning throughout the day, a multitude of shoppers arrived searching for treasures to buy and/or "gourmet" hot dogs to eat. Thanks to Mary and Lyn Hill and Maureen Calder, all the "stuff" had been temptingly arranged on the preceding day.

Maureen, Mary Stuart, Marcia

Granville, the Brackett family, and Corrilla and Jim Hastings were the willing salespeople on Saturday when almost \$1000 was added to the funds to benefit the library. Many thanks go to the people who donated items for the sale.

EMPIRE FALLS QUILT WINNER

The name of the lucky winner of the Empire Falls Signature quilt raffle was drawn on May 20 at the end of the lawn sale. We are delighted to announce that the Rinaldi family is now the owner of the quilt! This seems especially fitting as both Christine Rinaldi and her parents have done so much for the Library in recent years. Congratulations to the Rinaldis, and we hope

you'll enjoy having the quilt to hang on your wall, whether in Skowhegan or in Texas!

**Minutes of the Friends of the Library
Annual Meeting
May 10, 2006**

Executive Board Members Present:
Sherry Vigue, Jo Anne Dubois, Mary Stuart, Dina Jeannotte, Marilyn Renfrew, Maureen Calder, Marcia Granville

Approximately 20 guests and members also attended.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

The library lunch fundraiser was successful, raising nearly \$1200.

We have filed papers for the IRS 401 status. The quilt raffle has brought in \$400 so far.

We will continue sales until the drawing on May 20th.

Trustees Meeting Update: Maureen reported that the library trustees have had extra meetings to go over changes to the building. The brickwork repair will start soon. Discussion on possible reconstruction and/ or an addition continues. Some rewiring will be done soon.

Fundraisers: Quilt raffle—We will sell tickets at the 6 Mile Yard Sale.

Six Mile Yard Sale—Donated items may be dropped off at the Hastings barn. We need volunteers to sell and to help with trucks for cleanup.

Membership—Dina spoke to the audience about the importance of membership in the Friends.

Elections— It was moved and seconded to elect Mary Stuart and Maureen Calder as co-presidents for one year. Everyone approved. We will go one year with-

out a vice-president. We need to recruit more members for the executive committee.

The next meeting of the executive board will be August 3, 2006.

Dina Jeannotte was the speaker for the evening program. She presented slides and a very informative and entertaining commentary on her recent trip to Egypt.

JUNE NEW RELEASES

FICTION:

Child, Lee	<i>Hard Way</i>
Clark, Carol Higgins	<i>Hitched</i>
Connelly, Michael	<i>Crime Beat</i>
Cornwell, Patricia	<i>At Risk</i>
Finder, Joseph	<i>Killer Instinct</i>
Goudge, Eileen	<i>Immediate Family</i>
Hillerman, Tony	<i>The Shape Shifter</i>
Johansen, Iris	<i>Killer Dreams</i>
King, Laurie	<i>The Art of Detection</i>
Koontz, Dean	<i>The Husband</i>
Lewis, Beverly	<i>The Englisher</i>
Littell, Robert	<i>The Visiting Profes</i>
	<i>sor</i>
McMurtry, Larry	<i>Telegraph Days</i>
Macomber, Debbie	<i>Susannah's Days</i>
Mitchard, Jacqueline	<i>Cage of Stars</i>
Patterson, James	<i>Beach Road</i>
Quick, Amanda	<i>Sweet Revenge</i>
Ray, Jeanne	<i>Julie & Romeo Get</i>
	<i>Lucky</i>
Roth, Philip	<i>Every Man</i>
Sandford, John	<i>Dead Watch</i>
Tyler, Anne	<i>Digging to America</i>
NON-FICTION	
Audubon Society	<i>The Audubon Back-</i>
	<i>yard Birdwatcher</i>
Nemirovsky, Irene	<i>Suite Francaise</i>

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There will be no *Library Lookout* in July.

BOOK REVIEW
By Melissa Gaspar

I just read *King Spruce* and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Set in the Maine woods during the early 1900's, this action packed drama is full of many colorful characters. The story may be slightly predictable, but is well-told and has surprises along the way. Full of romance, passion and true woods wisdom, the story follows the adventures of Dwight Wade, a school teacher whose principles are tested as he struggles against the domineering land baron, King Spruce. This story is inspiring for its portrayal of the depth of the human heart and the strength of the human soul to strive to deal honestly in a dishonest world. The book is written by Holman Day, a Maine author who was born in Vassalboro in 1865 and graduated from Colby College in 1887. *King Spruce* is Holman Day's second novel and was written in 1908. Melissa Gaspar

FAVORITE AUTHORS

By Marcia Granville

History class was boring to me. All those treaties, wars and 'meaningless' dates I had to memorize meant nothing. I didn't care who did what just so long as it was done. History only came alive to me in fiction. Rather than just learning the names of important historic events, I could get to know the people involved, take part in the happenings, if only vicariously, and care deeply about how they turned out. It may not be the best way to

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learn history, but it works for me. Perhaps it will work for you, also.

One author who wrote a very good historical novel is Kenneth Roberts. If you wish to learn more about early America without opening a dusty history book, read *Rabble in Arms*, *Arundle* or *Northwest Passage*. Other books by Kenneth Roberts are *The Lively Lady*, *Captain Caution*, *Oliver Wiswell*, *Lydia Bailey* and *Boon Island*.

Renewed Memberships

Jim and Corrilla Hastings, Ray and Gloria Hearn, Linwood and Mary Hill, Miriam Malloy and The Semper Fidelis Club

Visit the library website at:

Find out if we have your favorite authors at: www.skowheganlib.me.us

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

JUNE

Every Wednesday Story and Craft Hour, 10 am in the Children's Room
Library Trustee meeting, 6 pm The public is welcome to attend.

June 12 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room

June 19 Book Sale 11:00-5:00 at the library

June 19 Sign up for the Summer Reading Program

June 26 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room

June 30 Old Time Radio Club 10:30 at the library

JULY

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

July 4 Library will be closed for the holiday.

July 10 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room

July 24 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room

AUGUST

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

August 14 Toddlertime 10:30-11:00 am in the Children's Room

August 28 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 Jarvis 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

2007-May

James & Corrilla Hastings

538 Malbon Mills Road

Skowhegan, Maine 04976

