

The Friends of the Library **NEWSLETTER**



Brooklin, Maine

www.friendml.org

July 2009

The Librarian's Notebook

I'd like to thank the entire community for its outstanding support of our library during this financially difficult time. Through the Town Warrant, the Annual Fund Drive, the Silent Auction & Valentine Send, the book sales, and all the other ways you find to support the library, you make this great little library possible.

This winter we had big turnouts for our first ever Winter Wanderlust travel talk series, in which local residents treated us to slides and tales of adventures in the Arctic, the Galapagos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Watch for upcoming programs this spring and summer to include Storytime for Grownups, brought to you by your librarian and other friends and neighbors; and a talk by nationally known woodworker and author, Jim Tolpin.

We have refreshed our magazine subscriptions by discontinuing several less popular titles and adding these new ones: *Eating Well*, *Rug Hooking*, *Smithsonian*, *Hobby Farm Home*, *The Week*, and for kids: *Muse* (beginning in September).

Our dedicated group of garden volunteers deserves a special thank you for all their hard work maintaining the library garden. It is such a lovely, shady spot to sit and relax, talk to friends, read, use your laptop, or have a bite to eat. The benches are back in place in the Circle of Friends garden, waiting for you!

Happy spring,

Stephanie Atwater, Librarian

A few of our happy attendees at Storytime this winter.

*Left to right:
Juliet Claybaugh, Isabel Hurley,
Genevieve Claybaugh, Adan Mathewson*



Library Parking

Our library sits proudly on a very busy intersection and on a very sharp corner. Your extra attention when visiting the library or accessing the internet from your car can help to protect our children and other residents. So please:

- Park wisely and safely, following rules of the road.
- Take care getting in and out of your car, especially when children are nearby.
- Look three times for pedestrians and cars before you pull out onto busy Route 175.
- Drive SLOWLY through Brooklin center.

Thank you.



Book Sale July 4

The library's **4th of July Book Sale** will take place at Bowden Hall between 9 a.m. and noon, so please be sure to stop by. Your purchases help to support the library, and you end up with an armful of current, good-condition books at bargain prices, all set for your summer reading.

Our new library bags are also for sale-- just what you need to take all those books home. And if you purchase a few of our library note cards or postcards, you can tell your friends "from away" what they're missing!

Garden Notes

After a long, tough winter, garden plantings are springing back with surprising strength. Thank goodness for King Alfred daffodils! As we go to press, the May Apples and Helleborus are in bloom, with the Wood Peony, Carolina Phlox and Labrador Violets showing promise of things to come.

A sure sign of spring, the benches have reappeared in the Friends' Circle. Bleached and thoroughly cleaned by Ken Pratt, who stores them in his dry barn over the winter, they look terrific! If you see Ken, please give him a "thanks."

Volunteers are the people who keep the garden going. We always welcome new faces. Just let us know if you would like to lend a hand.

Peggy Hopkins, Garden Committee Chair

Oh, the Places We Went!

Wanderlust *n.* Strong desire for or impulse to wander or, in modern usage, to travel and to explore the world.

In 2009, some of us traveled far...and some of us traveled only as far as the library for the Winter Wanderlust Travel Talk and Slides Series. Our destinations were remote and isolated, tropical and crowded, snow-covered and nearly barren.

Our February journey was to the Galapagos Islands in the southern Pacific Ocean. Hosts Julie and Walter Reed and Keenan Hilsinger showed us the unique geography, flora and fauna of the islands that set Charles Darwin on the course that led to his *Origin of Species*.

In March, Jane Whitney and Richard Hero shared their experiences on the edge of the Canadian Arctic. After a fact-filled visit to Winnipeg, Manitoba's capital, Richard and Jane traveled north to Churchill on the shores of Hudson Bay. Touring by tundra bus, they viewed polar bears, arctic fox, willow ptarmigans, and the specialized plant life of the frozen tundra.

Jean Hylan shared her experiences in Vietnam and Cambodia during the April program. Packed with cultural information and vivid, artistic photos, Jean's account of her tour with an educational group provided an eye-opening look at these two war-torn countries and had a profound effect on everyone present.

The presentations were very well attended and we would like to continue the series. If you have taken a trip you would like to share, please contact Stephanie at the library, 359-2276.

For more information on the places covered in these programs, check out the library's related offerings: *The World of the Polar Bear* by Norbert Rosing; *Galapagos: The Islands That Changed the World* (DVD); *The Circle of Hanh* by Bruce Weigl

NancyRandall

"Love your Library" a Great Success

As most of you know, our second annual Silent Auction & Valentine Send went online this year. We wanted all of you, wherever you live, to be able to participate in this fun event, and we needed the auction to generate more income for this year's budget. All the time and effort of the many volunteers, donors, sponsors and library staff paid off, as the auction exceeded our hopeful expectations! Fabulous and unique items were dreamed up and

offered by area residents and the bidding was wonderfully lively. Like last year, the library was filled with lovely, handmade valentines throughout February, each representing a donation to the library, and honoring the donor or a loved one. Whatever you do, don't miss "Love Your Library" in 2010. If you would like to donate an item, become a sponsor (with your logo on the auction website), or volunteer your help, please call me at 359-2276, or send an email: director@friend.lib.me.us *Stephanie Atwater*

Treasures in the Library Stacks

Book Review: *Sorrow's Anthem*

by Michael Koryta (St. Martin's Minotaur, 2006)

If you are a fan of gritty fiction, you'll want to read this novel. I have read many such books, and I don't think I've found a better suspense story in recent years. Quite a find browsing the stacks at Friend Memorial Library.

The second book in the series featuring Cleveland private investigator Lincoln Perry, *Sorrow's Anthem* has a simple story line. Perry, a thirty-something former police officer, learns that his estranged childhood friend, Ed Gradduk, is hiding out after being accused of arson and murder. Perry feels responsible for Ed's previous conviction and imprisonment on a drug charge, so decides to search for Ed. But Ed is accidentally (we think) run down and killed by a police cruiser while trying to escape from Perry's questions. Perry believes his old friend is innocent of these new charges and sets out to learn the truth.

And the truth is elusive. Perry and his partner, old-time retired cop Joe Pritchard, roam the seedy streets of West Cleveland to uncover it and find all kinds of evil doing: mob links to public housing construction, dirty cops, serial arson, suicides, sexual abuse, and the sins of parents coming back to haunt the next generation.

What sets this novel apart from the typical potboiler is the depth with which the author describes the characters and their relationships, starting with Lincoln Perry himself, who isn't sure why he's doing what he's doing, but can't seem to stop, even as he sees friends get shot and hopes destroyed. Also, Koryta's description of the urban landscape is detailed and lifelike: an ethnic blue collar community losing its identity year by year, hanging on by demanding loyalty to neighborhood friendships. And residents don't forget what they see as disloyalty, regardless of motives.

This is a book that not only tells a great story, but also makes you think--it's a winner. Koryta's Cleveland and its run-down residents remind me of early Dennis LeHane describing seedy parts of Boston, and George Pelecanos recalling the lives of the lower working class of suburban DC. Koryta was only in his mid-twenties when he wrote *Sorrow's Anthem*, but it is written as if he had a lifetime of experience. You'll find it on the shelves at FML.

Rich Freethey

Library Calendar

4th of July Book Sale –

Saturday, July 4, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon,
Bowden Hall

Storytime – Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Stephanie Atwater

Knitters Group – Thursdays, 4 to 6 p.m.

Programs

Storytime for Grownups -

several Saturday evenings this spring and summer, dates TBD

Jim Tolpin, woodworker & author -

talks about cottage homes, July date TBD

Art Exhibits

June

Vicki Richardson – hooked rugs

July

Jane Fletcher – watercolor paintings

August

Kate Lanigan – cut paper silhouettes

September

Paula Briggs – painting & printmaking

October

Holly Meade – children's book illustrations

November - Student Art Exhibit

December - Student Photography Exhibit

January - Fiber Arts Exhibit

February

"Love Your Library" - valentines & auction

March

Tad Goodale – photography

More programs are being scheduled – watch for posters and news items and check our website:

www.friendml.org

**Board Members of
the Friends of Friend Memorial Library**

Jane Whitney, President; Richard Freethey, Vice President; Millie Lohrmann, Treasurer; Anita Jacobssen, Secretary; Stephanie Atwater, Librarian; Peggy Hopkins, Garden Committee; Nancy Randall, Books for Babies; Kathy Ricker, Book Sales; Sharron Ellis; Jean Porter; Kim Ridley

Help is Welcome!

Are you interested in joining the Friends group? Or would you like to offer help with occasional library projects? We'd love to hear from you! Please email or call the library, and one of the Friends members will call or email in response.

We are always looking for help with book sales, the Circle of Friends garden, the newsletter, restocking books for sale in the front entry, our annual open house, and whatever else the library needs us to do.

Friend Memorial Library

Summer Hours

(July & August)
Tuesday through Saturday
10 to 6

Winter Hours

Tuesday 10 to 4
Thursday 10 to 6
Friday & Saturday 10 to 4

359-2276

www.friendml.org

director@friend.lib.me.us

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