



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

<http://www.ledyard.lioninc.org>

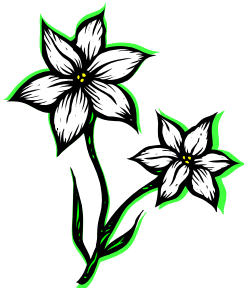
Spring 2011

Volume 24 No. 2

The Ledyard Libraries support and encourage the freedom to read, learn and discover in a welcoming environment. We provide friendly, knowledgeable service and free access to a diversity of ideas, resources and experiences. We strive to enhance the quality of life in our community, encourage lifelong learning and the love of reading.

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Happy Demisemiseptcentennial



This year, Ledyard will reach its dodransbicentennial anniversary. (That's the Latin designation for 175th, although the alternative "demisemiseptcentennial" has a much nicer rhythm to it.) On June 1, 1836, our town was incorporated, and its municipal business separated from Groton. The split, however, had begun more than a century earlier.

In 1724, 36 residents of what is now Ledyard petitioned the Connecticut General Assembly to establish a new ecclesiastical society in the northern section of Groton. The following May, Captain John Morgan presented their plea in person, mentioning "the extreme difficultes we are under in attending ye place [of worship]...by reason of great distance thare from and the imposebilty of our familys constant atandance for want of a sufficient number of horses...so that our families are in danger of being left destitute of means of grace and salvation." In other words, Groton was too far to go to church.

Such religious splits – all within the Congregational Church, at the time the established religion in our state – were common, whether based entirely on distance or whether that rationale concealed a more deeply-seated schism. The creation of the North Groton Second Ecclesiastical Society was ratified by the legislature in 1729. As the Second Society grew, its importance increased, to the point that in 1764 it was voted that half of Groton's town meetings be held in the northern meeting house. On September 20, 1813, Ralph Hurlbutt and others presented a petition at one of these meetings that the town be divided. Opposition was initially vehement, but by 1834 the matter was being hotly debated and intensely lobbied. A vote held that year found 123 in favor and 93 opposed.

A petition presented to the General Assembly lay dormant until May 1836, when a new petition was more forcefully presented. The State

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Children's Programs

We have an exciting "medieval" April vacation week coming to the Ledyard Libraries. Please note these programs on your calendar and join us for some great fun. An adult must accompany preschoolers. All programs are free and open to the public. If you have any questions call the library at 860-464-9912.



Please register for programs with this symbol.

Author visit with Jason Deeble

Tuesday, April 19 11:00 am
Bill Library



Come meet the author of *Sir Ryan's Quest*, our choice for One Book Every Young Child! Jason is a fun guy who will talk about the pictures he draws and how he turns them into a story. Have you every seen a box dragon? He will read *Sir Ryan's Quest* and

draw a name for someone to win an autographed copy! His books will also be available for purchase.

Drop in Medieval Crafts and Hands-On Display

Thursday, April 21 10:30 – 12:00 noon
Gales Ferry Library Grades K - 3

Join our own Andrea Buka in making your own medieval craft. Andrea will also have a great display of her own crafts from the Middle Ages



Amistad (Friendship) Club 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Thursdays Grades K - 6
Bill Library

Space is still available for after-school help. Adult and student mentors provide homework help, reading and math activities and the opportunity to socialize. Registration forms are available at Bill Library. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries, all are welcome.

Summer Program Alert

"One World, Many Stories" is the theme of our 2011 summer reading program which will begin on June 20 and end on August 6. There will be a Read-to-Me program for children born in 2007 through entering first grade. Programs and activities are now being planned. Check the next issue of our newsletter for details.

Teen Summer Reading Program 2011 You are here @ your library

Get ready for a great summer here at the libraries! We will be exploring world cultures this year. The program is open to students entering grades 7-12 in fall 2011. You can sign up for volunteer time

helping the younger children with their Summer Reading game, attend a cooking class, make candy sushi, apply henna 'tattoos,' or make duct tape crafts. There will also be weekly prize drawings for participants. Volunteer orientations begin in June, so stay tuned to our website, Facebook pages, and Twitter for updates.

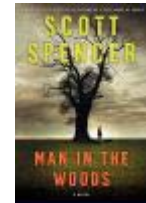
Andrea Buka, Teen Program Coordinator
teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org

Adult Programs

Book Discussions

Join our monthly book discussions on Wednesday evenings at Bill Library at 7:00 p.m. We always welcome new participants and provide evening refreshments.

April 20: *Man in the Woods* by Scott Spencer. What happens if we're not made to pay for our crimes? This question lies at the heart of this book, a psychological and philosophical thriller about belief, guilt, responsibility, love,



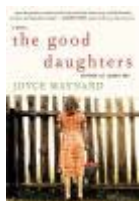
religion, and the randomness of life. Paul suffers the burden of his terrible secret: the fear of discovery and punishment and the equally disturbing fear of getting away with his crime. The incident and its fallout color his just-about-perfect life with lover Kate, now a recovered alcoholic turned famous inspirational writer, and particularly affects nine-year-old Ruby. As always, Spencer creates complex and genuine characters, the most marvelous character being Shep, the hapless rescue dog who endures abuse and becomes Ruby's pet. (*Booklist*)

May 18: *Great House* by Nicole Krauss.

This stunning work showcases Krauss's consistent talent. The novel consists of four stories divided among eight chapters, all touching on themes of loss and recovery, and anchored to a massive writing desk that resurfaces among numerous households, much to the bewilderment and existential tension of those in its orbit, among them a lonely American novelist clinging to the memory of a poet who has mysteriously vanished in Chile, an old man in Israel facing the imminent death of his wife of 51 years, and an esteemed antiques dealer tracking down the things stolen from his father by the Nazis. (*Publisher's Weekly*)



June 15: *The Good Daughters* by Joyce Maynard.



In her seventh novel, Maynard tells an evocative story of two babies born on the same day in the same hospital to two starkly different families. Ruth, dreamy and artistic, is born into a pragmatic farm family, while Dana, interested in plants and animals, seems more grown up than her flighty parents, who are constantly moving. Nevertheless, Ruth's mother makes a point of visiting Dana's family almost every year, wherever they are, calling the two girls "birthday sisters." As the years pass, Ruth finds the love of her life and tragically loses him, eventually settling for marriage with an insurance salesman and a home on the family farm near her beloved father. Dana finds love with a female college professor and success selling her own goat cheese and strawberries at a small farm stand. A profoundly moving chronicle of the primacy of family connection. (*Booklist*)

Senior Center Book Discussion

Mary Ellen Osborne, from the Gales Ferry Library, conducts a monthly book discussion at the Ledyard Senior Center. Anyone 55 years of age or older is eligible to participate. The group meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am. Upcoming books are distributed monthly at the discussion. Please contact Mary Ellen if you would like a copy of the book.

Upcoming dates:

March 23, 2011: *Firefly Lane* by Kristin Hannah

April 27, 2011: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows

May 25, 2011: *My Name is Mary Sutter* by Robin Oliveira

June 22, 2011: *The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss

Mad Hatters/ Stitch and Dish

The Mad Hatters will continue to collect items for our troops, active and retired, through June. Suggested knit and crocheted items are helmet liners, slippers, wheelchair/walker totes, and lap robes. Patterns are available at both libraries or you may use your own.



Stitch and Dish, our knitting group, continues to meet at Gales Ferry Library on the second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. and the fourth Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. Experienced knitters or those just interested in getting started are welcome to attend.

Jewelry Night @ the Library

The jewelry group meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Gales Ferry Library from 6-8 p.m. All beaders and jewelry designers are welcome. Bring your current project to work on. The group may be able to answer questions, or assist with different stitch patterns.

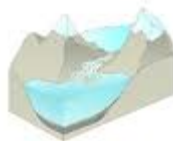
Spring Programs

A variety of events have been scheduled for the coming months and we hope you will join us for some or all of them. View the writings and artwork of community members, participate in the edible books contest, learn about glaciers and lighthouses or join us on CT Trails Day for a paddle. The hike and paddle are part of the family fitness series and children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult, and while we love dogs we must ask that they be left at home. Refreshments will be available at Bill Library after the hike compliments of the Friends of the Ledyard Libraries. All events are free and open to the public.



Monday, March 28

Understanding Glaciers



7 p.m.

Bill Library

Douglas M. Thompson, Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment and Professor of Geology at Connecticut College will present "The Life of a Glacier," focusing on how glaciers form, move

and evolve through time. The talk will include a history of past climatic periods in Connecticut preserved in glacial landforms. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.

Saturday, April 2

Artists & Writers Showcase Opening Reception And Edible Books contest

1-5 p.m.

Bill Library

Come enjoy the works of local artists and writers at our sixth annual showcase of talent! Talk with your talented neighbors about their art, while viewing or reading their pieces, and sampling refreshments. Visual and written pieces will be on display through April. Artists take note: due to limited space entries are limited to three per artist, (with no limit for writers) and must be submitted by Wednesday, March 30. Please fill out an entry form when submitting your work.

The opening day reception will also feature a contest of edible treats that tie into a book in some way such as a pun on a title, about a character, or an actual book made to eat! Participants are invited to submit entries from 12:230 – 1 p.m. on the day of the event. They will be on display until 3 p.m. and then

served to all attendees. Entries may be submitted by anyone: families, individuals, businesses, civic organizations, etc. Go to the official website: www.colophon.com/ediblebooks/photos.html for more information about this international festival, and some inspirational ideas.

Beverages will be provided by the Friends of Libraries. Contact Andrea Buka at abuka@ledyard.lioninc.org or at (860)464-9912 if you have any questions

Wednesday, April 27, 2011 7:00 p.m.
"Atticus" Bill Library



In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the publication of Harper Lee's classic novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, character actor Richard Clark will portray Atticus Finch as a loving father, compassionate friend, and uncompromising attorney in 1930's Alabama. Sponsored by Friends of Ledyard Libraries.

Saturday, May 7 1 p.m.
Ledyard's Highlands: A 20th Century Village



Ledyard has a rich and varied heritage. Initially an outpost known as "North Groton," Ledyard became a town in its own right in 1836, but the development of its population centers began long before that and has continued into the 21st Century. The greatest period of growth, however, came in the 1960s and 1970s. This spring, Town Historian Kit Foster will conduct an interpreted walk through The Highlands, Ledyard's largest single development and the only one of several new neighborhoods to evolve into a recognizable village. We will meet at the Gallup Hill School, 169 Gallup Hill Road to begin our walk. Dress for the day's weather and wear comfortable shoes. Significant rain will postpone the walk until Sunday.

Thursday, May 12, 2011 7:00 p.m.
"The Story of Ledge Lighthouse" Bill Library

National Geographic photographer and President of New London Ledge Lighthouse Foundation Todd Gipstein will present films and narration of the history, challenges and future of our local landmark. A discussion of lighthouses in general will also be included, and Ledge Light memorabilia will be available for purchase. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.



Sunday, May 15 2-4 p.m.
Genealogy Research Online



As a follow-up to Carol Ganz's Genealogy program in March, we will do a live search for specific, predetermined information through the CT State Library's *History and Genealogy site*, iConn's *HeritageQuest*, *Family Search* (the LDS online database), *Family Tree Connection*, *Cyndi's list*, *American Ancestors* (New England Historic Genealogical Society's resources) as well as a quick search of *Ancestry.com* (one of many subscription service genealogy sites). In addition to reviewing these online sites we will take time to share the addresses for any other sites that audience members feel would be useful to the group. Handouts with web addresses and short summaries will be available. We will also distribute a questionnaire to explore the possibility of forming a regular group to do research together online or assist each other with genealogy research problems. Limited to 20 participants. Please register at Bill Library.

Saturday, June 4 10 a.m.
Poquetanuck Cove Paddle



Join us in participating with a CT Trails Day event at Poquetanuck Cove. This easy flat water paddle at high tide through a narrow, 2-mile tidal embayment of the Thames River will be led by Ann Roberts-Pierson and David Bainbridge. Discover a significant coastal habitat and designated state bird sanctuary. Learn about ongoing efforts to control damaging invasive plants. Bring your own canoe/kayak, personal flotation device, beverage and snack. Sponsored by Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc. We will meet at the public access car-top boat launch at end of Royal Oaks Drive (off Arrowhead Drive, Ledyard). Heavy rain cancels.

Donations

We recently received donations for the purchase of books for the libraries.

In Honor of:

- Jessie Baker
- Marie Engleman
- Pam Kalinoski

In Memory of:

- Irene Nichols.

We are pleased to honor and remember our patrons in this way.

Con't from Page 1

Senate and General Assembly approved it on June 1, and on the June 11 a meeting of legal voters in the new town met to elect officers. Typically, separatist municipalities, of which there were many in our state, took a compass point in their new names: North Branford, North Stonington, East Windsor, West Haven, South Windsor (the latter taken from East Windsor, not Windsor). North Groton, however, opted to take a wholly new name, and chose to honor and remember a favorite son, Colonel William Ledyard, heroic Commander of Fort Griswold during the September 6, 1781 Battle of Groton Heights.

Kit Foster, Ledyard Town Historian

Children's Book Awards 2011

Newbery Award:

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool

Newbery Honor Books:

Turtle in Paradise by Jennifer L. Holm

Heart of a Samurai by Margi Preus

Dark Emperor and Other Poems of the Night
by Joyce Kilmer

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia

Caldecott Award:

A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip Stead

Caldecott Honor Books:

Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet Slave by Laban Carrick Hill
Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein

Nutmeg

Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies (Intermediate 4-6)

Unwind by Neal Shusterman (Teen 7-8)

These books have been ordered for our libraries. Reserve a copy of any you wish to read and we will let you know when it is ready for you.

A Word from the Ledyard Library Friends

Quarterly Meeting

Monday, April 25 7 p.m. Bill Library

We hope everyone will attend! Linda DeRose, Marion Cutler, and Gale Bradbury have volunteered to work on the nominating committee for a new slate of officers that will be elected in April. Your vote is important. If you know someone you think would make a good candidate, or if you are interested yourself, please contact a member of the nominating committee. We will also be looking for members to fill At-Large board positions. This is a great way to help out. If you are interested please contact me (bshafr@aol.com, or 860-536-6008) or Carl Nelson (cnelson18@comcast.net).



Thanks to all who braved the cold and snowy winter to attend the January meeting at the Bill Library! We had a great turnout. One thing that was decided at the meeting was that in order to better serve our membership we will begin holding half our meetings at the Gales Ferry Library. At this writing the plan is to have the April and October meetings at Bill, and the July and January meetings will be held at the Gales Ferry Library.

The volunteers were the honorees at the January meeting. Following Gale's demo of the movie-theater sound quality and ease of use of the new AV system purchased by the Friends in 2010, and a tour of the sorting area by Dave Engelman, the meeting was closed and the Friends enjoyed a lovely table of refreshments. The table was set with yellow flowers and balloons, and everyone shared heavenly deviled eggs, mini-quiches, lovely cheeses and crackers, cookies, fruits, a divine punch, and more, and the company of Friends. It was a wonderful way to spend a chilly winter evening.

Three special Friends were honored for their long term and devoted service to the Friends in support of our two Libraries. The first was **Marie Engelman**, who has given many years in many capacities, and who for the last several years has been the driving force behind the Bill book sale and has shaped it into a sale that is well organized, high quality, and very profitable. Her energy, enthusiasm and smile brought many volunteers into the fold who have loved working with Marie. **Jessie Baker** was also honored, for her years of shaping and developing the Gales Ferry book sale. Jessie created a system at Gales Ferry and has an almost encyclopedic knowledge of books and book categories and who their buyers will be. Jessie has stepped down as chair of the Gales Ferry booksale but continues to serve the Friends as an At-Large Board Member. The third person honored was **Pam Kalinowski**. I first met Pam while she was chairing the Bill book sale and spoke with her often when my boys helped carry books. Pam's soft spoken nature belies her strength and determination and the energy she then put into the Bill sale, and has since carried into a job she does currently, the ongoing book sale. Pam has a sharp eye for a special book, and is always thinking and planning for special sales or holidays, to put together a collection for a Christmas sale, or some special things for children, crafters or special topic readers. She keeps her eye out for special quality, rare, unusual value or topic, and always keeps a display in the special glass case that is interesting and attractive. The Friends donated a book to the library in honor of each of these volunteers. The books were chosen to reflect an interest of the honoree. Thank you to the three exceptional volunteers.

Gales Ferry Library Book Sale June 8 – 18



Members night for the sale will begin Wednesday June 8 at 6 p.m. The sale will open to the public at 10 a.m. Thursday and remain open during library hours for the duration of the sale. At this writing we have a wonderful team of sorters hard at work at both libraries preparing for our June and September book sales. Donations are coming in and things are shaping up for two great sales. Many thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who are giving their time. If you would like to volunteer, contact Carl Nelson or me.

Hope to see you all April 25th at 7 PM.

Betsy Shafer

National Library Week

April 10-16, 2011

**Create Your Own Story
@ Your Library**

Holiday Hours

April 24	Easter Sunday	Closed
May 29	Memorial Day	Closed
May 30	Memorial Day	Closed

LIBRARY HOURS

BILL

860-464-9912

Monday – Thursday 10-9
Friday - Saturday 10-5
Sunday 1-5

email: bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

GALES FERRY

860-464-6943

Monday – Thursday 10-8
Friday - Saturday 10-5
Sunday Closed

email: gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

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