



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Winter 2008

Volume 21 No. 1

The Ledyard Libraries serve as a center of information for the community. They 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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Beat the Winter Blues @ your Libraries

The holidays will soon be over and the long winter days will settle in. This is the time of year when we want to stay inside and hibernate until spring. Ledyard Libraries have just the thing to get you out of hibernation and moving again. We have lots of exciting programs for children, teens and adults. Story hours for children will begin again at each library in January, a writing group for teens meets twice a month at Bill Library, and for adults there are book discussions, winter hikes and everything in between. Participate in the adult winter reading program and see if you know where in the world John Ledyard is for a particular week.



Are you planning a winter vacation – check out our collection of travel books. Whether you are traveling to Rome or Mexico we have just the thing to plan your itinerary. For the armchair traveler enjoy a travel video or DVD.

Come in for a cup of coffee and read the daily newspaper or the current issue of your favorite magazine. Bring your laptop and use our wireless connection for the Internet. Find a book to read or listen to.



Visit the library today and beat the winter blues!



Children's Programs

Registration for Story times at the Ledyard Public Libraries will begin **Monday, January 7, 2008**. You may call in to the library where the program is being offered anytime after 9:30 am.

Infants (6-15 mos.)

GF Tuesday 9:30 am Jan. 15-Feb. 12

Toddlers (16 – 24 mos.)

Bill Monday 9:30 am Jan. 14-Feb. 25

Terrific Twos

Bill Monday 9:30 am Mar.10-Apr. 28

GF Tuesday 9:30 am Mar. 11-Apr. 22

Three to Fives

Bill Wednesday 9:30 – 10:15 am Feb. 6 – May 7

GF Tuesday 10:30 – 11:15 am Feb. 5 – May 6

Four to Sixes

Bill Thursday 1:00 – 1:45 pm Feb. 7 – May 1

February Vacation Program

Join us for a great program at Bill Library on February 19. More details to follow.

Teen Programs

Teen Writing Workshop

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month 7 p.m.

Bill Library (No meetings in December.)



Our writing workshop is open to young adults in 7th-12th grades. Come participate in fun writing exercises, share your work (if you like), and meet other like-minded teens. We have been sharing what we are reading, along with exploring untried genres, and of course, enjoying refreshments. Check the Teen Page on the library website for the latest picks to read. You don't have to bring your work with you to the meetings, just come ready to play with words! For more information please contact the Teen Program Coordinator, Andrea Buka at teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org or leave a message at either library.

Adult Programs

Book Discussions

Join our monthly book discussions on Wednesday evenings at Bill Library, beginning at 7 P.M. We always welcome new participants and provide evening refreshments.



January 16, 2008 – Andrea Buka (Teen Program Coordinator) will host a sharing of your favorite reads from this most recent holiday period. Please be sure to bring a few books with you to pass around to others. We all gain so many ideas of what to read next from this annual event. It is usually very well attended and a good time to start coming to book discussions as we learn so much about other group members' personal reading tastes and interests!

February 20, 2008 – *Ledyard: In Search of the First American Explorer* - Bill Gifford.

John Ledyard was one of the first well known explorers at the birth of this nation. Born in Groton, CT, he met Thomas Jefferson, Lewis and Clark, Captain Cook, Lafayette, John Paul Jones and a host of other well known politicians and explorers of the era. This biography talks about the complicated man who set outrageous exploration goals and traveled far from Ledyard while being one of the first to talk about the basics of "multiculturalism." Idealistic and mercenary, restless and lazy, with a history of tantrums and fistfights, John Ledyard was a man readers will find fascinating and intriguing.

March 19, 2008 – *An Arsonist's Guide to Writer's Homes in New England* – Brock Clarke.

"This book is the delightfully dark story of Sam Pulsifer, the accidental arsonist and murderer/narrator who leads readers through a multi-layered, flame-filled adventure about literature, lies, love and life. Growing up in Amherst, Mass., with an editor for a father and an English teacher for a mother, Sam was fed endless stories that fueled (literally and figuratively) the rest of his life. Thus, the blurred boundaries between fact and fiction, story and reality become the landscape for amusing and provocative adventures that begin when, at age 18, Sam accidentally torches the Emily Dickinson Homestead, killing two people. After serving 10 years, Sam tries to distance himself from his past through college, employment, marriage and fatherhood, but he eventually winds up back in his parents' home, separated from his wife and jobless. When more literary landmarks go up in flames, Sam is the likely suspect, and his determination to find the actual arsonist uncovers family secrets and more than a bit about human nature." (From *Publishers Weekly*.)

It's Winter Reading Time Again

Our six week winter reading program for adults begins on January 27th and concludes on March 8th. The theme this year is "Where in the World is John Ledyard?" John Ledyard (1751 – 1789) was a native of Groton, who wandered the globe during a



relatively short but eventful life. To enter the weekly raffle at each library, adult patrons will use clues to guess where John is that week. Join in the fun and find out about John Ledyard's travels.

Special Winter Reading Programs:

Navigate Ledyard – John Ledyard traveled all over the world, but how well do you know our town of Ledyard? Stop in and pick up a Navigate Ledyard worksheet any time during the winter reading program. Pick a good weather day and follow the directions. After you have completed the worksheet, return it to the library. If you ended up in the right place, you will win a prize!

Sunday, February 3 Australia and New Zealand (Snow date- Sunday, March 2)

Bill Library **2:00 p.m.**
Margaret Wilson, a local resident, will present a program and slides on her travels to Australia and New Zealand. No registration is required.

Sunday, February 24 Russian Cuisine (Snow date - Saturday, March 1)

Bill Library **2:00 p.m.**
Our popular food program makes a return engagement. Andrea Buka and Jennifer Finlayson will introduce us to the foods of Russia with a variety of delicious samples. Registration is required. Call Bill Library, 464-9912.



Family Fitness Fun @ Your Libraries

Back by popular demand the Library Friends will once again sponsor family friendly hikes on local trails. Get outside and do something fun this winter and spring as we travel through woods, fields and roads discovering all there is to see. Children must be accompanied by an adult and while we love dogs we must ask that they be left behind. Call either library to sign up for one of more of these hikes. In the event of inclement weather an alternate date will be picked.



Saturday, January 12 Avery Preserve **1:00 p.m.**

Join us as we revisit the Avalonia Land Conservancy's Avery Preserve on a winter hike led by Mike Goodwin of Gales Ferry. Mike will point out some points of interest such as the Avery sheep wash, the remains of a stone bridge and the site of a former sawmill. Be sure to dress warm for this moderate hike. Parking is very limited at the site and hikers are encouraged to meet at Bill Library to carpool.

Saturday, February 9 **1:00 p.m.** Morgan Reservoir and Dam



Karl Acimovic will lead this hike around Morgan Reservoir beginning at the East side on Sandy Hollow Road. He will talk a little about the history of the area, managing the woodlands, water quality issues and wildlife habitats. Parking is limited at the site and hikers are encouraged to meet at Bill Library to carpool.

Saturday, March 15 **1:00 p.m.** Copp Family Park, Groton, CT

We will take a mystery walk through the Copp Family Park with Beth Sullivan. Winter is almost over but spring is not quite here and you never know what you will find. The park is located on Route 184 in Groton.



Saturday, April 12 **1:00 p.m.** Magical History Tour – Gales Ferry Village

Historians Kit Foster and Jan Bell will guide us through the streets of Gales Ferry Village while giving us the history of the area. We will meet in the parking lot at Gales Ferry Community Center.

Stitch and Dish

The knitting group continues to meet twice a month at the Gales Ferry Library. Stitch and Dish is a social and instructive knitting group for all levels of ability. The only requirement is that you bring needles and yarn. Members will help new people get started or share patterns and yarn ideas. The evening group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and the afternoon group meets on the fourth Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. Both groups are held on a drop-in basis, so stop in for either one when you are looking for knitting buddies.

Artists & Writers Showcase and Edible Books Contest

Saturday, April 5 **1-5 p.m.** Bill Library

Come enjoy the works of local artists and writers at our 3rd annual showcase of talent! Talk with your talented neighbors about their art, while viewing or reading their pieces, and sampling refreshments. Due to space constraints, entries are limited to three per artist or writer, and must be submitted by Wednesday, April 2nd at the Bill Library.

In conjunction with the Showcase, we will participate in the International Edible Book Festival. This is a contest that invites you to use your creativity to fashion an edible entry that refers to a book in some way. It can be a pun on



the title, about a character, or be an actual book made to eat! Go to the official website:

www.books2eat.com to get more information about the international festival, and inspirational ideas.

The entries may be dropped off from 12:30-1:30, viewed by the public until 3, and will then be served to all attendees. Beverages will be provided by the Libraries Friends. Entries may be submitted by anyone: families, individuals, businesses, civic organizations, etc.

Please contact Andrea Buka by email at teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org or leave a message at either library if you have any questions.

Coffee or Tea @ your Library

Bill Library now offers tea or coffee to library patrons thanks to the Library Friends. We have a variety of regular and flavored coffee and tea for \$1.00 a cup. Patrons are invited to enjoy their favorite beverage while they read the paper or do their work. We do ask that all drinks have lids and that they not be brought to the computers. Coffee and tea are also available at Gales Ferry Library.



Email addresses needed

The library would like to add your email address to our records. With an email address we will send you reminders before your books are due to help you avoid those overdue fines. If you need your books longer they may be renewed through your computer or by phone unless some one else is waiting for them. In addition you may want to receive our monthly email newsletter. When you are in the library please take a minute to fill out the form giving us your email address or if you like email it to us at bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org with your name and street address.



Giving Tree

Thank you to all who generously participated in our "Give a Child a Book" program this Christmas season. Thank you also to all who gave anonymously. The parent's were thrilled with the beautiful books they were able to choose for their children!

Jeanne Allyn	Cindy Juskiewicz
Nancy Avery	Melissa Kearney
Marilyn Baseler	Katie Kerster
Jessie Beal	Ledyard Center Nursery School
Maureen Beaver	Jody Lees
Breanna Bedard	Rebecca Lynch

Suzanne Bedard	Joan Lynch
Nancy Brewer	Mary Mathis
Nicole Brownson	Liam Mathis
Kathy Bruckner	Karen Moorehead
Angela Buckley	Cynthia Morrison
Andrea Buka	Nelson Family
Sharon Butler	Lynn Nelson
Delia Christensen	Mary Ellen Osborne
Jacqueline Cisar	Shawn Pealer
Donna Coen	Jay Pealer
Stephanie Coffing	Tara Pealer
Joyce Davis	Dan Pealer
Ellie Davis	Katie Pealer
Brynn Doughty	Dawn Petersen
Hayden Doughty	Mary Phillips
Bryson Doughty	Mary Schwab
Kate Foley	Sandy Seaton
Sarah Ganong	Betsy Shafer
Carol Ganz	Mike Sienkowski
Susan Gordon	Shelley Steendam
Erica Grenger	Mary Stelevitz
Justin Grenger	Nancy Strawderman
Cay Haffey	Mary Toth
Catherine Hiller	Alison Tynan
Nance Holland	Diana Wall
Marty Hubbard	Alice Wester
Sheila Jordan	Gayle Wilson
Mary Juber	Karen Ysewijn

For your Listening Pleasure

No time to read? Why not try an audio book? The libraries provide audio books in multiple formats. In addition to Books on Tape and Books on CD we also provide "Downloadable" audio books and "Playaways".



The downloadable books are available through the library webpage at www.ledyard.lioninc.org. Choose from hundreds of popular titles right from your web browser and access them with our free OverDrive Media Console software.

Click the graphic on the webpage or the link in the library catalog to search for a book, download it to your computer, and play it back. Downloads may be transferred to a compatible MP3 player and some titles may be burned to a CD. A list of compatible devices (sorry, iPod's aren't on the list.) is available on the site, along with easy to follow downloading instructions. The book is available to you for two weeks and it may be renewed if no one is waiting for it. A valid Ledyard Library card is required to complete the download



If you like audio books but don't like downloading them and getting them onto your MP3 player, you can try the PlayAway book. Each one is about the size of a small MP3 player and is preloaded with a complete book. The unit uses one AAA battery and works with earphones or with an adapter through a speaker system in a car. Earphones and adapters are not provided.

Bloggng @ Ledyard Libraries

The library has a blog to inform you about what is happening and more importantly to get your feed back. Log onto the library webpage and click the link "At your Service." Let us know what you think.

Holiday Hours

December 24	Christmas Eve	Closed
December 25	Christmas Day	Closed
December 31	New Year's Eve	Closed
January 1	New Year's Day	Closed
January 21	Martin Luther King Day	Closed
February 18	President's Day	Closed

Services to the Homebound

With the arrival of cold days and icy roads, it is more difficult for everyone to get to the library. Some of you may not be aware that we offer delivery service to patrons who are unable to get to the library due to lack of transportation or illness. Even if this is a temporary situation, we are happy to put you on the homebound delivery list until you are able to resume library visits.

Homebound delivery can be tailored to meet individual needs. There is a convenient "Service to the Homebound" questionnaire available at the libraries which can be used to let the librarians know what types of materials you would be interested in receiving. We are happy to choose books, tapes or movies for you based on your questionnaire. If you want specific items, you may call either library and request that they be delivered to you. You may also search the library catalog on line and request books and other materials. We will call or e-mail, depending on your preference, when the items arrive and homebound delivery can be arranged at that time.

If you have any questions about library services to the homebound, please call Mary Ellen at the Gales Ferry Library, 464-6943. The library also maintains a list of volunteers who are willing to deliver to the homebound. If you would like to be added to that list, contact Mary Ellen.

Local History Room

The Local History Room at Bill Library has undergone major renovations in the last year and we are pleased to announce it will soon be open to the public on a regular basis. It began



with a moisture problem in the room which led to mold on the bookcase walls. Clean-up of the mold resulted in the disposal of all the wooden bookshelves in the room. The room was thoroughly cleaned and each book was "Hepa" vacuumed. The windows were replaced, the walls repaired and the room repainted. New metal shelving, which is less



harmful to books, was special ordered to fit the configuration of the room. The room is round and fitting the new shelves was no easy task. The new shelving units have wooden end panels and a

wooden top which gives the appearance of a built in bookcase. Funding for the shelving came from the Ledyard Historical Society, the Friends of the Library and a Bodenwein Grant. We are grateful to these organizations for their support.

Friends News

The Library Friends held their annual meeting in October to review the fall book sale, elect officers and disburse funds raised during the year. The major source of funding for the Friends include the book sales held at each library, the on-going book sale, dues, and the items that they sell such as the book bags and cats meow cutouts of each library. The members agreed to fund several items for the libraries including an ergonomic computer table, an OPAC table and a bench seat for Bill Library, shelving for Gales Ferry Library, printers for both libraries and more. In addition they will fund programs for children, teens and adults, museum passes to circulate, and publicity materials.

The officers elected for the 2007-2008 year are as follows:

President:	Diana Wall
Secretary:	Jessie Baker
Treasurer:	Dave Engleman
Ongoing Book sale:	Pam Kalinoski
Gales Ferry Book sale:	Jessie Baker
Bill Library Book sale:	Marie Engleman

New members are always welcome to join. Dues start at just \$5.

The Ledyard Library Friends is the support group for the Ledyard Libraries, both the Bill and Gales Ferry. Won't you join us?

Please Check one: Individual Member \$5.00 per year
 Family Member \$10.00 per year
 Supporting Member \$25.00 per year

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

I am willing to help with:

Bill Book sale Gales Ferry book sale Other fund-raising activities
 Membership campaign

Please fill in information and return this form along with membership dues to either library or mail to Ledyard Library Friends, P.O. Box 225, Ledyard, CT 06339 and welcome to our family of Friends!

LIBRARY HOURS

BILL

464-9912

Monday – Thursday 9-9

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday 1-5

email: bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

GALES FERRY

464-6943

Monday – Thursday 9-8

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday 1-5

email: gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

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