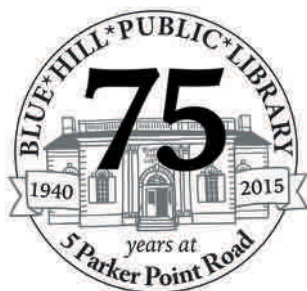


Blue Hill Library Notes

Special Edition Fall/Winter 2015

BUILT WITH DONATIONS OF A \$1 AND "A DAYS WORK"



This year we mark our 75th anniversary in the building that BHPL calls home. Our reference librarian Karen Wyatt recently unearthed a poster about a library fundraiser in 1893. It was for a drama called “Rebecca’s Triumph” and the poster exclaims “Come one! Come all! And help to swell the proceeds that are to be added to the fund being raised to erect a LIBRARY BUILDING.” The cast included Eliza Herrick, Lena and Fosta Hinckley, Lizzie Grindle and Carrie Dodge. Tickets were 25 cents for adults, 15 for children.

We don’t know how much money was raised that night, but we do know that it would take almost 50 more years to make the

dream of a free-standing public library a reality for Blue Hill. The children who attended “Rebecca’s Triumph” were very likely grandparents in 1940 when the doors to the Blue Hill Public Library finally opened. They and their families would have been among the community members who later pledged their support for the new library with \$1 or a day’s work. Many of the names on a pledge sheet from 1938 are familiar and their descendants continue to use and support the library today.



We are often asked if the Blue Hill Library is a “Carnegie building.” The assumption is logical considering the substantial and elegant design. But we are proud to explain that BHPL was created and half funded by the community. While we are the honored recipients of an endowment from Adelaide Pearson and a PWA construction grant from the New Deal, the library would never have happened without the donation of time, labor and money from many Blue Hill residents.

Interestingly, at the time not everyone agreed that Blue Hill needed a free-standing, full-service library. One resident pledged \$100 but felt the need to put in a pitch for a new hotel instead:

“I feel you are working on rather a large scale for a place as small as Blue Hill. Out of all proportion to the other buildings. It would be fine to have a nice small library large enough to be convenient. What we really need is a fit place for one to stop. I really feel ashamed to tell any of my friends there is not place for them to go, not even a good boarding house. Well everyone to his own ideas.”

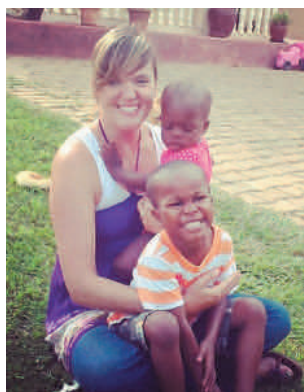
Too bad we can’t tell her that not only would the Blue Hill Library outgrow the “rather large” structure built in 1940, but it was so popular we needed to double its size in 2000. Plus, we now have three very respectable Inns for our visitors to stop and get a good night’s sleep. All told, it’s a happy ending fit for a play called “Blue Hill’s Triumph.” —Shelley Latham

Name	Pledge	Amount
Sarah Snowman	.50	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Grindle	.35	.35
Mamie Greene	.50	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Fullerton	.25	.25
Mrs. Brooks Weasott	1.00	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. C. Howard	1.00	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. James Millings	1.00	1.00
Mrs. H. Richards	.50	.50
Alwilda Osgood	.50	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Leach	.50	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Dodge	.50	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Biscatt	1.00	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Parker	1.00	1.00
Tunker family	1.00	1.00
Mrs. Mona Gray	.25	.25
Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Babson	1.00	1.00
Mr. Frank Stover	2.20	2.20
Mr. and Mrs. Horton Emerson	1.00	1.00
Miss Anna Woods, R.N.	1.00	1.00
H. Josephine Sweet	5.00	5.00
Roland Howard	20.00	20.00
H.J. Hinckley	1.00 (one day's work)	1.00
A.B. Herrick	8.00	8.00
Philip Nevalla	1.00	1.00
Lewis Gillis	1.00	1.00
Harry Leach	1/2 (one days work - stone mason)	1.00
Harry Gillis	1.00	1.00
William Leach	(one day's work-stone mason)	1.00
Olive Saunders	1.00	1.00
Mrs. Lula Greene	2.00	2.00
Blue Hill Greenhouse	1.00	1.00
Gaylor Gray	1.00	1.00
Eva P. Candage	1.00	1.00
Arthur M. Piper	1.00	1.00
Harry C. Duffy	1.00	1.00
Frank Maddox	1.00	1.00
Severance Tucker	1.00	1.00
Luther Piper	1.00	1.00
Mrs. E.T. Hinckley	1.00	1.00
Charles Salisbury	1.00	1.00
Gladya M. Gray	1.00	1.00
Cal Gray	one day's work or money	
James Smarton	one day's work or money	
Knoch Grindle	work with truck	
Harry Smarton	1.00 (High school fund)	1.00
Eliza Herrick	1.00	1.00
Thelma Grindle	1.00	1.00
Orin C. Gray	1.00	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Gray	1.00	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. William Astbury	(will give)	
Lowell J. Cousins	1.00	1.00
Mrs. Laurence Carter	1.00	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Carter	1.00	1.00
Lillian Grindle	.50	.50
Mina Grindle	1.00	1.00
Lila Snow	.50	.50

“I have a difficult time imagining life in Blue Hill without this remarkable library that we are gifted with...Where or what would we be without it?”—comment from strategic plan survey

LIBBY EDWARDSON: NEW YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

As you may already know, in September we said goodbye to Pat Horton, our Youth Services Librarian for the past 6 years. I am happy to report to you that we have found Pat's successor, Elizabeth "Libby" Edwardson, to serve our younger patrons. Libby comes to BHPL with varied experiences. Most recently she worked as a Bookmobile and Outreach Librarian in Bell County, Kentucky. Her clients in Appalachia ranged from seniors to the incarcerated. A big part of her job has been working with teens and "tweens." Libby created activities ranging from a "zombie Prom" to a writing group for teens. She was also actively involved in programs that promote tolerance, such as a Gay/ Straight Alliance. While at the Bell County Library, she co-founded a library program called "52 Weeks of Giving" which subsequently morphed into a standalone nonprofit dedicated to weekly acts of kindness, both local and global. Prior to Bell County Libby worked as a middle school drama coach, and did some outreach work for the Girl Scouts. Libby moved to the area in early November, along with her husband, six kids, two pugs and two kittens. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Libby and her family.



— Rich Boulet



Halle and hubby putting the swing in our 75th Anniversary Party on October 2nd. Many thanks to the over 700 people who attended!

BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.BHPL.NET

where you can browse the collections, renew materials, request holds & interlibrary loans, view the calendar, reserve rooms, register for events, download ebooks, audiobooks and free music, subscribe to the newsletter and donate!

"Quite frankly, one of my favorite places on the planet" —comment from strategic plan survey

THE ANNUAL FUND DRIVE: HOW WE KEEP THE DOORS OPEN

The library is a treasured community resource, made possible by your tax-deductible donations.

Why?

The **Blue Hill Public Library** is an **independent non-profit organization**. It is "public" because our mission is to provide free access to information to everyone who seeks our services. About **17% of the library's budget comes from four area towns**: Blue Hill, Surry, Sedgwick and Penobscot, with most of this money coming from Blue Hill.

Who?

You! **83% of of funding comes from patrons** in the form of direct donations, fees, fundraising events, gifts to the endowment and bequests. Your donation helps support library services for over 4,500 households from all the towns on the Peninsula.

How Much?

We need to raise **\$140,000 from our Annual Appeal**. Sounds like a lot, but if we had \$1 for every patron visit we would raise close to \$120,000 in a year.

What For?

- 1) Current and continuously updated collections
- 2) Courteous, professional staff
- 3) A comfortable, well lit building
- 4) Up-to-date computers, software and Wi-Fi
- 5) Educational & cultural programs—over 400/year!
- 6) Meeting space, digital services, and so much more!

How?

It's easy to support the library!

- Make a **direct donation** of any amount by cash, check, or credit card.
- **Become a 4-Seasons donor** and make automatic monthly payments
- Attend one of our **fundraisers**.
- **Donate or buy books** from Friends of the Library
- Include the Blue Hill Public Library in **your legacy plans**.

More info & to donate online: www.BHPL.net

