



THE LIBRARY PAGE

The “mostly monthly” newsletter by The Friends of the Blue Hill Public Library

WHO WE ARE

The Friends of the Blue Hill Library is a volunteer group that raises funds for a variety of library purposes not covered by the library’s operating budget.

WHAT WE DO

We fund: New York Times subscriptions, Must See Movie Series, Play Readings, Opera Previews, Great Decisions Series, Children’s Programs, Literacy Programs, purchases of digital media, furniture, a/v equipment, staff appreciation gifts, scholarships for staff and volunteer development, and more!

FOL OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Leslie Goode	President
Ellie Andy	Vice President
Nina Fleming	Secretary
Marjorie Yesley	Treasurer
Rich Boulet	Library Director

Meredith Amado, Lucy Benjamin, Bonnie Copper, Michael Donahue, Nina Fleming, Jane Garfield, Kay Grover, Susan Hudson, Fran Jennings, Ken Schweikert, Donna Scheutzow, Norm Scheutzow, Phil Schirmer, Linda Slaven, and Anne Smallidge.

Letter From the President

The start of the year seems like a good time for reflection, both backward and forward. With that, my comments could be summed up in two words – THANK YOU!

The past year at the library was full of wonderful big and small moments. We had lots of fun and success at our many month events such as movies, discussion groups, and used book sales, as well as the annual crowd pleasers such as the spring plant sale and December holiday party. Thank you to all who helped organize these activities and all of you who attended, bringing lively discussion, connections, and good cheer.

While all of that was happening, we celebrated farewells to beloved, long-time staff members and welcomed new staff who bring exciting ideas and energy to our community. It is hard to believe it has only been a year since Libby Edwardson joined us as the Youth Librarian with all the activities and services she’s launched, including movie and book discussions, writing groups, *52 Weeks of Giving*, and the most recent group “*Girls Who Code*.” Hannah Cyrus joined us in 2016 as Assistant Director and has also immediately had an imprint, expanding the author talks and events for adults. In December alone, we heard about working and writing cookbooks in *America’s Test Kitchen* as well as from the author of *Hidden Figures*, who shared her childhood experiences, the process of writing the book, and her perspective on the book becoming a movie, capped off by a special film screening at the White House. All of this happened in a single year at our library in Blue Hill.

What better way to begin 2017 than celebrating the 15th anniversary of Rich Boulet as our library director? Rich put our little library on a scale with much larger institutions and communities in terms of our collection and the full scope of what we offer. At the same time, Rich has been a careful steward of the building itself, tending to ongoing maintenance and bringing it into a modern age with sophisticated IT services, energy efficient heating systems, and now, a generator so that the library can serve as a community center even when the electricity is out around town.

We are very lucky to have devoted staff and wonderful people working for our library and living in our community.

Finally, many thanks to all of the households that renewed their Friends of the Library memberships and/or contributed to the 2016 Annual Appeal. If you haven’t had a chance to join the Friends for

Continued on next page

Book Nook Book Sales

Saturday, Feb. 4th
9:00 – 2:00

In the Book Nook
Blue Hill Public Library

Love to read!?

February Features

Many new fiction and
biography titles
Lots of new children's titles

February Specials

Cook Books ½ price!
**Scores of quality like-new
Paperbacks 50¢**

Over a thousand quality
used books for children and
adults! In all categories.
Most books are still just a
dollar or two and Children
at the sale may take one
book — **free !!!**

*We are ever grateful for the
wonderful and generous
donations that support the
book sales! For information
and guidelines on
donations, please contact the
library. Many thanks to our
loyal customers, and a big
welcome to newcomers
to our sales!*

Proceeds from book sales
enable the Friends of the
library to offer special
programming for the
community and purchases
for the library.

Continued from previous page

2017, we've enclosed a handy form in this newsletter—the last call for the year. I look forward to seeing you at the library in 2017!

Leslie Goode, President, Friends of the Blue Hill Public Library.

From the Director's Desk

Rich Boulet, Library Director: rboulet@bhpl.net

The year in review

At just under 130,000, the Blue Hill Public Library hosted more visitors in 2016 than any other year on record. This is according to statistics captured by infrared counters at each entrance. The previous best year was in 2009 when we welcomed 127,000 people.

All other statistics were up in 2016 compared to the prior year. We loaned 99,000 items from our materials collection, which was up 2%. Computer and WiFi use climbed 8% at 33,500 sessions. Digital library use (eBooks, downloadable content, etc.) was up 5%. Even reference questions climbed by 200 requests.

Another area of growth, one that contributed to the record number of visits, was in how many events took place at the library. 2016 provided the community with 522 library-sponsored events, ranging from storyhours and playgroups for toddlers to lectures, community movies, author events, “how to” demonstrations, you name it. Along with that we counted an additional 580 community-sponsored events under our roof in 2016.

That's more than 1,100 events, or an average of three each day, between our two meeting rooms. We counted 10,300 attendees to library-sponsored ones and estimate 5,700 for community-sponsored events. A casual glance at our online calendar will confirm that there are tons of events taking place at the library, sometimes making it difficult to schedule a meeting or even for the library to host an event. That's a good problem to have.

Couple of recent improvements

The Howard Room is the site of so much of the activity discussed above. With help from the Friends of the Library and a donor, we recently upgraded that room's audio and video setup. We now have high quality 7.1 surround sound; the DVD/BluRay player has been moved to a more accessible place; the room has a built-in microphone capability; and it's all tied together with an intelligent remote system that makes any a/v use much easier.

The library also recently upgraded its WiFi capability. A strong signal should be receivable from pretty much anywhere in the building, as well as through the grounds and nearby parking spaces. If you look closely above the balustrade over the outer wings, you may see some sort of Space Invader-looking chiclet things, now serving patrons outside.

January 14th marked my 15th year serving as director for this well-used and loved community institution. The Friends and Library Board hosted a reception to recognize that, and I am grateful for the gesture. What really makes going to work engaging, and worthwhile during my tenure is the fact that the library truly is such a vibrant, responsive and appreciated part of our peninsula community, and that there is always something interesting going on.

—Rich Boulet

Thank You “Crafts for Kids” Crafters!!!

The Friends of the Library would like to thank all the wonderful crafts people—and purchasers, too—who made our *Crafts for Kids* project such a success. With your help and good will we raised over \$1200 for holiday gifts and children’s programs. Well done, library lovers!!



A special thank you to all who donated the truly lovely crafts: Ellie Andy * Daksha Bauman * Stephanie Black * Lynne Blair * Hannah Cyrus * Michael Donahue * Claude Dupuy * Rico Estabrook * Susan Farrar * Karen Frangoulis * Judy Fletcher * Leslie Goode * Susan Guilford * Keith Herklotz * Susan Hudson * Susan Jellison * Fran Jennings * Michelle Keyo * Heather Lyon * Carrie Marks * Frederica Marshall * Margarete Molnar * Jane Proctor * Jean Salvachak * Elizabeth Sawyer * Donna Scheutzow * Liz Solet * Jane Story * Sally Tomkins * Allison Watters * Marjorie Wheeler * Mary Whiting * Marjorie Yesley

Canine Cabin Fever

Seeing extra destruction with your new puppy inside all day? Too cold to take a walk but still need something to tire out your stir-crazy lab? Being cooped up inside due to the cold is no fun for humans, so imagine how difficult it is for your dog! Join us February 18th at 3 pm in the Howard Room for this presentation where we’ll equip you with all the tools needed to have a fun, guilt-free winter with your pup. These activities will help keep your dog alert and mentally active all season long while strengthening your relationship and getting rid of unwanted behaviors!



2017 FOL Membership Drive

Many THANKS to those who responded to our recent membership drive and became new or renewed Friends of the Library members. Your support helps make all that we do at the Blue Hill Library possible. And for those of you whose membership renewal is still on your to-do list, not to worry, there’s still time! Just fill out and return the form included in this newsletter. A strong FOL membership base contributes to the vitality and success of the library in its efforts to serve the greater Blue Hill Peninsula community. New or renewed 2017 FOL members include:

Mary Allen, Meredith Amado, Bill and Lanny Anderson, Ellie and Emil Andy, Pat Baird, Lucy Benjamin and Clifton Page, Riva and Arnold Berleant, Cheryl and Rich Boulet, Suzanne and Don

Carmichael, Tom and Kitty Clements, Bonnie and Merle Copper, Gladys Cutler, Laurie Downey, Robert Downey, Phyllis Eckfeldt, Nina and Bob Flemming, Leslie Goode, Kay Grover, Susan and Charles Guilford, Nancy and Charles Hatfield, Susan and Parker Hudson, Roxanne Jansen. Fran Jennings, Jean-Alice and W. Christian Koch, Steve and Linda Lindsay, Doris Miller, Duncan and Elinor Neuhauser, Philip and Marilyn Norcini, Tom and Judith O’Callaghan, Vicki Pollard and Howard Evans, Bonnie Preston, Donna and Norm Scheutzow, Philip and Mary Jane Schirmer, Ken Schweikert, Anne Smallidge, Robert and Kristina Stephens, Roderick and Anne Swift, David and Barbara Thompson, BG Thorpe, Jeff Titon and Martha Daniels, Ciona Ulbrich, Marjorie Yesley.

New on the Shelves

Nonfiction

- Fernyhough, Charles, *The Voices Within: The History and Science of How We Talk to Ourselves*
- Dunbar, R. I. M., *Human Evolution: Our Brains and Behavior*
- Haidt, Jonathan, *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*
- Glennon, Michael J., *National Security and Double Government*
- Barker, Meg-John, *Queer: A Graphic History*
- Brown, Neil D., *Ending the Parent-Teen Control Battle: Resolve the Power Struggle and Build Trust, Responsibility, and Respect*
- Epstein, Edward Jay, *How America Lost Its Secrets: Edward Snowden, the Man and the Theft*
- Dunlap, Julie, *Coming of Age at the End of Nature: A Generation Faces Living on a Changed Planet*
- Tyson, Timothy B., *The Blood of Emmett Till*
- Fuller, Randall, *The Book That Changed America: How Darwin's Theory of Evolution Ignited a Nation*
- Furbish, Kate, *Plants and Flowers of Maine: Kate Furbish's Watercolors*
- Durrani, Matin, *Furry Logic: The Physics of Animal Life*
- Allers, Kimberly Seals, *The Big Letdown: How Medicine, Big Business, and Feminism Undermine Breastfeeding*
- Douillard, John, *Eat Wheat: A Scientific and Clinically-Proven Approach to Safely Bringing Wheat and Dairy Back Into Your Diet*
- Carreano, Carolyn, *Bowls of Plenty: Recipes for Healthy and Delicious Whole-Grain Meals*
- Bray, Ilona M., *Nolo's Essential Guide to Buying Your First Home*
- Pearce, Charlotte, *Tiny House Living: Tips & Ideas to Stay Organized, de-Clutter, Live Well & Make the Most Out of Your Small House or Apartment*
- Ossman, Laurie, *The Gentleman's Farm: Elegant Country House Living*
- Herzog, Amy, *You Can Knit That: Foolproof Instructions for Fabulous Sweaters*

- Adams, Katherine J., *Comfort and Glory: Two Centuries of American Quilts from the Briscoe Center*
- Lonely Planet, *Epic Bike Rides of the World*
- Daniels, J. D., *The Correspondence: Essays*
- Talese, Gay, *High Notes: Selected Writings of Gay Talese*
- Kinzer, Stephen, *The True Flag: Theodore Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and the Birth of American Empire*
- Wing, Charlie, *Salt in Their Veins: Conversations with Coastal Mainers*
- Welky, David, *A Wretched and Precarious Situation: In Search of the Last Arctic Frontier*
- Times Atlases, *History of the World in Maps: The Rise and Fall of Empires, Countries and Cities*
- Bettinger, Blaine T., *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*
- Evans, Richard J., *The Pursuit of Power: Europe 1815-1914*
- Hayes, Peter, *Why?: Explaining the Holocaust*
- Davidson, Ian, *The French Revolution: From Enlightenment to Tyranny*

Biography

- Bosworth, Patricia, *The Men in My Life: A Memoir of Love and Art in 1950s Manhattan*
- Fletcher, Tony, *In the Midnight Hour: The Life & Soul of Wilson Pickett*
- King, Coretta Scott, *My Life, My Love, My Legacy*
- Kohler, Sheila, *Once We Were Sisters: A Memoir*
- Kurzweil, Amy, *Flying Couch: A Graphic Memoir*
- Laing, Olivia, *The Lonely City: Adventures in the Art of Being Alone*
- Vargas, Elizabeth, *Between Breaths: A Memoir of Panic and Addiction*
- Waldman, Ayelet, *A Really Good Day: How Microdosing Made a Mega Difference in My Mood, My Marriage, and My Life*

Fiction

- Ackerman, Elliot, *Dark at the Crossing*
- Auster, Paul, *4 3 2 1*
- Axat, Federico, *Kill the Next One*

Barry, Sebastian, *Days Without End*
 Berenson, Alex, *The Prisoner*
 Boldizar, Alexander, *The Ugly*
 Buckley, Fiona, *The Heretic's Creed: An Elizabethan Mystery*
 Carey, M. R., *The Girl with All the Gifts*
 Coe, Jonathan, *Number 11*
 Cusk, Rachel, *Transit*
 Donaldson, Jesse, *The More They Disappear*
 Donellan, J. M., *Killing Adonis*
 Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan, *The Complete Sherlock Holmes, Volume I (Barnes & Noble Classics Series)*,
 Dugoni, Robert, *The Trapped Girl*
 Flint, Emma, *Little Deaths*
 Frankel, Laurie, *This Is How It Always Is*
 Frederick, Heather Vogel, *Yours Truly*
 Fridlund, Emily, *History of Wolves*
 Gilligan, Ruth, *Nine Folds Make a Paper Swan*
 Greaney, Mark, *Tom Clancy: True Faith and Allegiance*
 Grebe, Camilla, *The Ice Beneath Her*
 Harper, Jane, *The Dry*
 Harrison, Mette Ivie, *For Time and All Eternities*
 Hauser, Emily, *For the Most Beautiful: A Novel of the Trojan War*
 Howard, Kate, *The Ornatrrix*
 Johnson, Lindsey Lee, *The Most Dangerous Place on Earth*
 Jonasson, Ragnar, *Snowblind: A Thriller*
 Krentz, Jayne Ann, *When All the Girls Have Gone*
 Krivak, Andrew, *The Signal Flame*
 Lescroart, John T., *Fatal*
 McCarthy, Rob, *The Hollow Men*
 McDermid, Val, *Out of Bounds*
 Meyer, Stephenie, *The Chemist*
 Naughtie, James, *Paris Spring: A Thriller*
 Parker, Samuel, *Purgatory Road*
 Petrie, Nick, *Burning Bright*
 Rankin, Ian, *Rather Be the Devil*
 Rendahl, Eileen, *Cover Me in Darkness: A Mystery*
 Reza, Parisa, *The Gardens of Consolation*
 Roberts, Nora, *Island of Glass*
 Ruskovich, Emily, *Idaho*
 Sekaran, Shanthi, *Lucky Boy*
 Smith, Fiona Veitch, *The Kill Fee*
 Steel, Danielle, *The Mistress*
 Wilson, Kevin, *Perfect Little World*
 Woods, Stuart, *Below the Belt*

New Exhibit: Mark and Martha Bell Pottery Collection



BLUE HILL – Blue Hill potter Mark Bell will exhibit a portion of his collection of pottery in the Blue Hill Public Library’s Howard Room Glass cases for January, February and March, starting on January 4th.

Mark Bell and his wife Martha have a collection of 500 pots, many of which are displayed around their house. His very favorite pieces are by his mentor, artist Brother Thomas Bezanson of Erie PA. Bell says, “His porcelain pots have a beautiful spiritual quality that goes beyond

everyday pottery, and are truly works of art.”

Although there are a number of types of pottery in their collection, for his own work Mark Bell chooses to work in fine porcelain—clay that is half white china clay, half glass. He says that he loves color, and porcelain is where

it really shows up.

Mark Bell has a Master of Fine Arts from Arizona State University and participates in shows all over the country. He has taught workshops for Haystack Mountain School of Craft and the University of Maine among other venues. The exhibit will be available for viewing during library hours starting January 4th. Mark will give a talk about the collection on February 23rd at 7 pm. For more information, call the library at 374-5515.

Stack Diving

Mark Baldwin, who likes to surf the Library's film selections, will offer occasional reviews for gems in the stacks. We hope you enjoy this take on the 1953 classic, *LITTLE FUGITIVE*.

LITTLE FUGITIVE

Boy does not kill brother, dodges cops, becomes beach bum dealer, changes movies.

But what kind of adventure flick is this? There's a gun, but nobody is shot, no cars are smashed, and nothing is blown up. The explosive part is what this simple 1953 film did to movies ever after. François Truffaut said, "Our New Wave would never have happened if not for the young Morris Engel (and his) *LITTLE FUGITIVE*."

Remember that the twenties, thirties, forties, and fifties were years of lavishly professional studio films with Famous Directors, state-of-the-art equipment, master camera operators, editors, scriptwriters, script fixers, stage dressers, actor dressers, makeup artists, best boys, grips, moguls, stars, agents, and money. Engel and Ruth Orkin, his partner and future wife, and cohort Raymond Abrashkin, had none of that. They didn't have money for trained actors or live sound, but they had a brilliantly simple idea, and a brilliant performance from a neighborhood boy. With an innovative camera and some subway tokens they wove the story through the weather and the light and their star's face, and they stayed on key.

Here's the story: cap gun-toting seven-year-old Joey is hoodwinked into thinking he'd killed his big brother. The big boys tell him to take it on the lam, and he winds up in the hordes at Coney Island. Engel and Orkin weave the scene and Joey's (Richie Andrusco) stoic believe-it-all reality into an intense real-time portrait of Brooklyn, NY in the early fifties. The young moviemakers didn't know it, but they also paint a classic picture of a time when children weren't constantly tethered to a grownup.

Among the movie's poverty-induced innovations are production values that were fresh and real compared to the big studio look. Not to knock the big boys, but *LITTLE FUGITIVE* and

films like *THE BICYCLE THIEF* helped change our ways of looking. Or maybe they showed that our normal way of looking, with paced glimpses and long stares, can make great drama. This is not to say that Engel was a primitive. His camera changed filmmaking, and football viewing for that matter. Here's a paragraph in Wikipedia:

The movie was filmed on location at Coney Island and Brooklyn using a unique, concealed strap-on camera, which made it possible for Engel to work without a tripod and large crew. It allowed him to have thousands of beach-going New Yorkers as extras without their knowing it. The device could be seen as a prototype for the Steadicam and was designed by him and the inventor Charlie Woodruff, a friend and fellow combat photographer he met during World War II, whom Engel called a "mechanical and engineering genius." This innovation proved to be the heart and soul of why *LITTLE FUGITIVE* was possible. Over the years, filmmakers such as Stanley Kubrick and Jean-Luc Godard were eager to borrow this unique camera.

(Lawyers today would burn out their time clocks if a movie showed so many people without signed releases at the least.)

LITTLE FUGITIVE was recognized early, but a bit cautiously. Here's a particularly good essay quoting reviews when the film was released, and in the years after: <https://www.fandor.com/keyframe/essential-reading-morris-engel-and-ruth-orkin>.

So is it a good kids movie? You bet.

And finally, *LITTLE FUGITIVE* is credited as the first non-documentary American independent film. It's also possible that there were other fine avant independent filmmakers whose work languished, as does much independent work today. *LITTLE FUGITIVE* made it because Joseph Burs-tyn, a brilliant film distributor (look him up) did a lightning job of getting the film publicized, seen, and reviewed in the US and Europe before he died, shortly after *LITTLE FUGITIVE* was released.

*Mark Baldwin is director of
The Borealis Press in Blue Hill*

New Exhibit: *Open Air Arts Initiative*

The new exhibit in the Britton Gallery is works by peninsula youth from the *Open Air Arts Initiative*, a collaboration between Blue Hill Heritage Trust and Cynthia Winings Gallery to encourage area kids to create art inspired by nature and Trust properties. Opening reception for the show is Saturday, February 11th 3-5PM.



Must See Movies



Diner (1982)

Thursday, February 9, 2017, 7 pm, Howard Room

Starring: Kevin Macon, Tim Daly, Ellen Barkin, Steve Guttenbert.

Director: Barry Levinson (Rain Man, The Natural, Good Morning Viet Nam, Avelon, Sleepers, Bugsby).

Story Line: “Diner” is a story about several young men who live in Baltimore. They share one awkward problem: They are growing up, painfully and awkwardly, at an age when they are supposed to have already grown up. Adolescence lasts longer for some people than society quite imagines. These guys are best friends for the time being, although in the fall they will go separate ways, to schools and jobs and even marriage, and it’s possible they will never be this close again. They cling to one another for security, because out there in the real world, responsibility lurks, and responsibility is spelled woman. They have plans, but their plans are not as real as their dreams.

– Roger Ebert

Play Reading

Hand to God

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 6:30 pm



Playwright: Robert Askins

Story Line: Be not deceived: The devil is lurking at the Christian Puppet Ministry in Cypress, Texas. And his name is...Tyrone. He may look like an innocent sock puppet, but when he infiltrates the angst-ridden church youth group and takes possession of Jason’s arm, well, all hell breaks loose. Spectacularly foul-mouthed and wickedly scandalous, Tyrone shocks the congregation with his outrageous insinuations, exposing their deepest secrets—and teaching us all about love, grief, and what it means to be human. This fast-paced irreverent comedy is “darkly delightful,” declares the New York Times.

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February 2017

The most serious charge which can be brought against New England is not Puritanism, but February.... Spring is too far away to comfort even by anticipation, and winter long ago lost the charm of novelty. This is the very three a.m. of the calendar.

—Joseph Wood Krutch

IN THIS EDITION

FOL President Leslie Goode and Library Director Rich Boulet thank everyone who helped make 2016 a **fun, busy and, record-breaking year**. Reviews of two new exhibits this month featuring **Mark Bell's pottery and youth paintings** from the **Open Air Arts Initiative**. A workshop on how to combat **Canine Cabin Fever**. And, as usual, a listing of **new titles**. This month's movie screening will be **Diner** and the play-reading will be **Hand-to-God**, by playwright Robin Askins.



Blue Hill Library



Friends of the Blue Hill Library
5 Parker Point Road
Blue Hill, Maine 04614

HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Friday: 9am – 6pm
Thursday: 9am – 8pm
Saturday: 9am – 5pm

Book Nook Book Sales:

First Saturday of the month,
9am – 2pm