April 2008

**Friends’ Group Launched**

The Friends of the Meredith Public Library met on March 20. Tom Ladd, Library Development representative from the State Library gave an informative and interesting talk on what it means to be a library friend. “Some Friends’ groups work solely as volunteers to the library; others are in charge of the landscaping. Some are involved in fundraising and others are political advocates for the library in their town. You need to decide what you want your Friends Group to be.” The group began to brainstorm ideas for the group based on needs expressed by staff. Some were interested in coordinating volunteers for projects such as homebound service and assisting in the children’s room during summer reading. Others took on fundraising ideas while a couple took on the task of setting up the paperwork necessary to officially form a Friends’ Group. It was a very enthusiastic group.

For those that wish to become a friend but do not necessarily have the time to devote to monthly meetings or a regular volunteer schedule, please feel free to join. Leave your name and contact information at the front desk and you will be contacted when the group is ready to start its membership drive. The group will be meeting again on Thursday, April 10 at 6:30.

**Victoria Lang New Director of Holderness Library**

Victoria’s last day was March 29 and she will be beginning her new job as director of Holderness Library on April 7. Patrons and staff alike will miss her helpful manner and friendly smile. Victoria had been in charge of our library’s audiovisual department and community outreach, especially to our community’s seniors.

She hopes that you can all come by and visit her at her new position.
New Highlighted Books

E (easy/everybody section)

Dirt on My Shirt by Jeff Foxworthy-
Celebrate poetry month with this hilarious collection of poems by comedian Jeff Foxworthy. Enjoy the essences of being a kid while flying to an imaginary planet, bonding over a hatred of spinach and getting dirt on your shirt. This book will delight kids of all ages.

Pigeon Wants a ??? by Mo Willems-What does pigeon want? We know he likes to drive buses, stay up late and eat hot dos but what will pigeon want this time? We will not find out until the book us published on April 1st.

J (juvenile/jammin' section)

Rodrick Rules by Jeff Kiney-The sequel to the popular Diary of a Wimpy Kid. Greg and his diary are back again trying to survive middle school. He gets no help from his older brother Rodrick who is happy to make the dairy not so secret. Will Greg get over the trauma?

Moving Day by Meg Cabot-Allie Finkle is nine years old and her parents just announced that they are moving. Allie feels that her life is over. She will have to go to old-fashioned school, be "the new girl," and leave all of her old friends. How will Allie cope?

Cool Websites

www.ourstories.org-This website is part of the One Laptop per Child project. Hear and see stories from children all over the world.

www.clubpenguin.com-This website is enjoyed by many of our young patrons. Club penguin is a Walt Disney created interactive virtual world where kids can chat, play games and create their own penguins.

www.ipl.org/div/kidspace-Check out Kidspace for help with general reference, math, science, geography, arts, language and crafts.

April Programs

Saturday Story Time-A reading from Meredith's very own bus driving author, Dawn Durand. Saturday, April 5th at 1pm. Snacks and bus project to follow. Open to all ages.

After School Story Time-Think Spring! Weds., 4/9th & Thurs., 4/10th at 3:30. Read stories, start your garden early & eat snack. Open to ages: 4-12


Preschool Story Time-Every Weds. & Thurs. at 10:30. Stories and more for ages 2-5 yrs.

May Day Celebration-May 1st at 3:30 will be our May Day celebration, including a May pole dance and Music from the Kinder Choir.

“From The Clock Tower”

MPL Kids’ Corner

“When having a smackerel of something with a friend, don’t eat so much that you get stuck in the doorway trying to get out.” -A. A. Milne
April Book Groups

**Thursday Morning Group**
April 10, 10:30-12:00
Join Judy as she and her group discuss *The Glass Castle*, a Memoir by Jeannette Walls. “Jeanette Walls grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn nonconformity were both their curse and their salvation. Rex and Rose Mary Walls had four children. In the beginning they lived like nomads, moving among the Southwest…”

**Thursday Evening Group**
April 24, 7:00pm
Join Erin as she and her group discuss *Gentlemen and Players* by Joanne Harris. St. Oswald’s is an old-world British school for boys trying to cope with modern times. It’s up to the old guard of teachers to keep the reputation of the institution spotless. One of the oldest of the guard is Mr. Straitley, the only remaining classics teacher fighting off modern conveniences such as e-mail and computer labs with only his sharp wit to arm him. Half of the story is told from his point-of-view in a journal style that will have you laughing out loud as he wages his passive-aggressive war against the modern languages department trying to squeeze him out of the domain he’s ruled over for thirty-three years.

The other half of the story is told from the point of view of a teacher that has a very old ax to grind against the school. Starting out at first with minor annoying pranks eventually St. Oswald’s teeters on the edge of extinction when scandals erupt and old secrets are forced back to the surface. Can Mr. Straitley save the school and figure out the root of all the trouble before St. Oswald’s has to shut its doors forever?

Didja Know?

Meredith Library has unusual items for circulation and use? Planning a party? Use our helium tank to blow up your balloons. Need a costume for the school play or looking for an unusual outfit for Halloween? Check out items from our costume room. Inquire at the front desk for assistance with either of these items.

We have the *Meredith News* dating back over one hundred years. We also have year books and local history information. In addition we have access to two genealogy databases, Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com provided to us by the State Library. Please check with a librarian for assistance and further information.

We are more happy to accept requests for purchases for all materials. Is your favorite performer missing from our CD collection? Do we need to add more books on a particular subject? Please leave your suggestions at the front desk. We can also get most items for you from other libraries. Ask at the front desk for assistance.

Reception for New Library Director

The reception for our new library director Erin Apostolos has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 3 from 11:00-1:00, hosted by the Meredith Public Library Trustees.

Please stop by to meet Erin and some of the library trustees and share in refreshments.

FLUME Award

Teen readers, it’s time to vote for your favorite FLUME book. Ballots are available in the YA area. They can be found on the red book cart along with the nominated books. Voting will remain open until April 30th. Completed ballots should be turned in at the Main desk. Thank you for participating in our first FLUME event!
New Items

**Adult Fiction**
- A Prisoner of Birth by Jeffrey Archer
- Another Thing to Fall by Laura Lippman
- Betrayal by John T. Lescroart
- Black Powder War by Naomi Novik
- Change of Heart by Jodi Picoult
- Christ the Lord: the Road to Cana by Anne Rice
- Ghengis: Lords of the Bow by Conn. Iggulden
- The Killing Ground by Jack Higgins
- Remember Me? by Sophie Cansella
- Siege of Heaven by Tom Harper
- Terra Incognita by Ruth Downie
- The Truth Commissioner by David Park
- The Winter Rose by Jennifer Donnelly

**Adult Non-Fiction**
- Beautiful Boy by David Sheff
- Charlie Wilson’s War by George Crile
- How to Master the Sport of Darts by George Silberzahn
- Liberal Facism by Jonah Goldberg
- Living Well by Montel Williams
- One Helluva Ride by Liz Clarke
- Party Crashing by Keli Geoff
- The Physics of NASCAR by Diandra Leslie-Pelecky
- Predictably Irrational by Dan Ariely
- Reconciliation by Benazir Bhutto
- The Science of Michal Crichton by Kevin R. Grazier
- Women & Money by Suze Orman

**Adult DVD’s**

**Feature Films**
- Across the Universe
- High School Musical 2
- Martian Child
- Namesake
- No Reservations
- Step Up
- Zodiac

**Documentaries**
- Catherine the Great
- 1421 the Year China was Discovered
- Headless Romans
- Herculaneum Uncovered
- Irish Escape
- The Jewish Americans
- The Medici
- Napoleon
- The People’s Palace
- Prajna Earth

**Audio Books**
- The Darkest Evening of the Year by Dean Koontz
- The Golden Compass by Philip Pullman
- Lean Mean Thirteen by Janet Evanovich
- Mothers and Sons by Colm Toibon
- Playing for Pizza by John Grisham
- Shadow Music by Julie Garwood
- Stone Cold by David Baldacci
- American Gangster
- The Assassination of Jesse James
- Atonement
- Beowulf
- Gone Baby Gone
- I Am Legend
- Midsomer Murders, 10
- The Tudors (series)
**Reviews**

**Erin’s Pick:**
The Golden Compass (audio) by Philip Pullman, narrated by a Full Cast—As a long time fan of audio books this one rates as my favorite. Set in an alternate fictional past of 19th century England, every human has what is called a "daemon". As children these daemons can assume any animal form, often changing depending on the mood of their child. Daemons are animal representations of human souls, and no one is complete without one. After puberty, the daemons assume one form and stay that way for life.

Daemons seem to take on the type of animal the person is in life...for example servants tend to have dogs as daemons...loyal and obedient. Scholars have birds such as ravens, intelligent and far-seeing. One sailor had a dolphin or some such creature as a daemon, thereby tying him forever to the ocean. Humans and their daemons are mentally connected. What one feels, the other feels. They can talk to each other and cannot be away from each other, even at close distances or they feel great pain and anxiety.

Lyra, an orphaned pre-teen girl, and her daemon Pan find themselves in the middle of a political conspiracy. Unsure of who to trust and who their true allies are, their life was changed forever when they witnessed the Master of the college where they had spent all their years as a ward, attempt to poison Lyra’s estranged uncle.

Her uncle, involved in some strange discoveries and experiments has returned to the college to ask for money to continue his work, investigating the origin of subatomic particles referred to as "dust". For some reason the scholars of the college are surprised to learn that this mysterious "dust" does not cling to children. After he receives the money and thwarts the master’s attempt to poison him, he returns to his work leaving Lyra in the care of the scholars of the college once again.

What follows is an adventure across all of England and in to the Arctic wastelands where we meet a polar bear king and a Texas aeronaut. What is dust, why are children disappearing and why has Lyra’s uncle been imprisoned for his experiments?

This story is considered Book I of “His Dark Materials” and does end with a cliff-hanger. The second book is called “The Subtle Knife” and the third is “The Amber Spyglass”. All three are done with the full cast audio and are first rate.

**Joan’s Pick:**
Bloody Jack by L. A. Meyer—A great read for children! London, 1797. An orphan named Mary leaves her street gang for life as a “Ship’s Boy” on board a chip. She disguises herself as a boy and calls herself Jack Farber. Lying about her age is the first of many lies she will tell to conceal her true identity. The adventures that come her way and the ‘fixes’ she gets herself into are humorous making this a fun and readable book for both girls and boys. Discover how she earns her nickname of Bloody Jack and follow along with her as her adventures fill five books.

“A library is a hospital for the mind.”
~ Anonymous ~
MEREDITH PUBLIC LIBRARY
PO BOX 808
91 MAIN STREET
MEREDITH, NH 03253

Phone: 603-279-4303
Fax: 603-279-5352
E-mail: erin@meredithlibrary.org

Library Hours
Sunday and Monday—Closed
Tuesday and Wednesday—10:00am-8:00pm
Thursday—8:00am-8:00pm
Friday—8:00am-5:00pm
Saturday—10:00am-2:00pm

Library Mission Statement
Meredith Public Library is the informational, educational, and cultural heart of the Meredith community. The library is a dependable source of reliable information and of challenging ideas that enlighten and enrich, and of materials in many formats that enhance leisure time and expand knowledge of current events. The library encourages the love of reading and the joy of learning, and offers the assistance people need to find, evaluate, and use electronic and print information resources that help them live successful and rewarding lives.

PO BOX 808
91 MAIN STREET
MEREDITH, NH 03253

Australian Items—This year’s Summer Reading Program’s theme is Australia. Jessie, our Children’s Librarian is looking for any items people may wish to donate or loan to her for the summer that are Australian related. Have you been to Australia, took some great photos and wish to give a little presentation on your trip? Please call the library and ask for Jessie to arrange this.

Costumes for the costume room—Maybe you worked hours on your child’s Halloween or play costume and hate to see it hanging in the closet because he or she has outgrown it. Perhaps you have some outrageous outfits from your younger days you’d like to forget you ever bought. That sombrero you purchased on your last cruise was fun in Cozumel by not very fashionable in Meredith. Well, the library will be happy to accept costume donations for the costume room. Please leave them at the front desk.

The library needs a few things and if you have any of these items at home that are no longer needed maybe you will consider donating them to the library. Please call us at 279-4303 before bringing anything down just in case someone else has already donated it.

Clothes Rack—Our costume room could use another clothes rack. These are the types of racks you may see dresses hanging on in a store.

We’re on the Web!
www.meredithlibrary.com

Needful Things