



Augusta Township Public Library Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2011

ISSUE 2

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Regular Hours:

Mon., Tues., Thurs.
1:30-5:30, 6:00-8:00pm
Wed., Sat.
9:00-1:00pm
CLOSED ALL STAT.
HOLIDAYS

Staff:

CEO/Head Librarian-Angela
Knights
Assistant Librarian – Linda
Parrott

Board Members:

Chair-Jacquie Kelly
Vice-Chair-Greg Morrison
Secretary-Fran Wright
Treasurer-Daphne Thornhill
Council Rep.-Pauline Cyr
Lynda McKittrick
Gary Thornhill
Tom Bennett

The **BOOK DROP** is always open. If you can't get to the library to return materials, don't worry, all borrowed materials may be returned via the book drop located on the outside wall to the right of the library's main entrance.

The library will be closed for the 2011 summer vacation, July 10-24th inclusive and reopen July 25th.

Silent Auction to become an annual event

Due to the success of the library's first ever Silent Auction, we have decided to make this an annual event. This was made possible due to the generosity of donations and time taken on behalf of our patrons, library staff and volunteers. It was amazing the wealth of donations we received and far surpassed our expectations.

This year's Silent Auction is set for the fall; the dates being October 11th-22nd and the library will **begin** accepting donations at the library **October 3rd**.

If you wish to provide us with a donation, please make sure that the items are new or nearly new and are in excellent condition.

Please join us over the course of these dates and place your own bids on items that appeal to you. All of the monies received will go to needed items that will provide the best possible library for our patrons.

Library Appreciation Night

On Tuesday October 19th, 2010, the Library Board held its' annual Library Appreciation Night. This is a time when the volunteers who help to make our library so successful are honoured. Our Chairperson, Jacquie Kelly read the names of all volunteers involved in this year's library operation and thanked them for their much-appreciated efforts.

A new "Pillars of Strength" volunteer plaque was added to the two already

hanging in the library. This year, for the first time, three 15 year volunteers were recognized for their service. They were Joan Gearey, Gail Perkins and Connie Whitehorn. Each received a special certificate as well as having their name on the plaque. Jacquie expressed our sincere thanks for their loyal service. The "Dreamers and Doers" Award was presented this year to two deserving candidates.

Gary Thornhill and Greg Morrison were honoured for their service to the library. They are both active Library Board members, and through their work on the Board's Technology Committee they have logged countless volunteer hours maintaining the 6 patron and 3 staff computers and 2 literacy stations at the library.

Reeve Mel Campbell expressed his congratulations.

Our Volunteers – Come, visit and see our staff & volunteers in action.

The dictionary describes Volunteer as "To enter or offer to enter into some service or undertaking of one's free will; not compelled or imposed upon by another; usually without recompense." Sounds simple, effortless, and unimaginative when stated in the blank context of the dictionary. It does nothing to explain, describe or honour the valuable service Augusta Township Library Volunteers do for our community.

These volunteers believe

in literacy, learning and the all round service of 'education within the community' that Augusta Township Library provides. They do that by making it cheerful, welcoming and efficient, without complaint; taking time out of their own lives to contribute.

The library is an accredited site for local students to access their required high school volunteer hours-toward their high school diploma. The library currently has 2 local students who along

with 10 regular Adult volunteers; shelve books, process books, straighten shelves, water plants, greet patrons, plus a multitude of tasks that free up our staff to attend to patrons' needs.

The library has 2 volunteers who regularly service, repair and upgrade our computer system.

The Library also has an 8 member volunteer Board. These Trustees oversee the working of the library as a whole.

Book Picks by Angie:

'Major Pettigrew's Last Stand' by Helen Simonson

The 'Chief Inspector Armand Gamache' series by Louis Penny

'City of Shadows' by Ariana Franklin

'Outside the Not So Big House' by Julie Messervy

'Shakespeare' by Bill Bryson

TRY ONE OF OUR EXPERTS' BOOK PICKS"

Book Picks by Linda:

'Sarah's Key' by Tatiana de Rosnay

'Earthly Joys' and 'Virgin Earth' by Phillippa Gregory

'Alone in the Kitchen With an Eggplant' by Jenni Ferrari-Adler

DONATIONS can be provided by cash, check or through Pay Pal, which is accessible on our web site.

New Adult Shelving

To better serve our adult readers, new shelving has been added to the library's fiction section. We are seeking donations to help defray the cost of this shelving. All donations will be gratefully accepted. Donations \$10.00 and over will receive a tax receipt, while donations \$20.00 and over, will be recognized by a special plaque as well as a tax receipt.

SOLS Programs

The Southern Ontario Library Service provides training, networking and opportunities for collaboration.

We participate in the Southern Ontario DVD Pool which provides our patrons with a choice of 80 DVD's, the selection changing every 8 weeks. Titles include documentaries, feature and classic films, how-to and children's movies.

The library receives funding through the SOLS connectivity grant which enables us to provide high speed wireless internet on six public access computers and a 'hot spot' for lap top users.

SOLS provides workshops and online courses for library staff so we can better serve our patrons.

SOLS facilitates the TD Summer reading Program, which encourages literacy

in a fun and creative way. This year the theme for 2011 is "*Splash, Celebrate Summer*". Kids can register at the library and receive a free poster, stickers and activity book. If they earn 10 stars by reading 10 picture books or 5 chapter books, they can choose a free book from our treasure box at the windup party during Public Library Week in October.

Our Physical Environment: Recent Changes

Energy consumption is of great concern to the Library Board and to try to address ever increasing electricity and heating bills, we have been seeking ways to limit our usage.

In the past months, the Library Board, using a Trillium grant, has re-insulated the entire building and school house to an R40 standard. More recently, we have

upgraded 24 of our fluorescent fixtures with more energy efficient and up-to-date ballasts and tubes. This effort has been funded by Hydro One's Power Savings Blitz and by our own library budget. The result is better lighting at a much lower cost. The remainder of the fixtures will be upgraded before the end of 2011.

Prior to the end of 2010,

all the parking lot lighting was changed from the existing energy hog stadium lights to more efficient sodium street light type fixtures.

Free Computer training for seniors is available by appointment. We provide one-on-one hourly sessions.

School House Rental

Our wonderful old schoolhouse is available for rent. The cost is \$25.00 for non-profit organizations and private parties such as baby showers, and \$50.00 for profit making groups such as Pampered Chef etc.

Interlibrary Loans

If our library does not have a book you are looking for, our librarians would be glad to order if for you from another library through the 'Inter-library loan system'.

There is usually no charge for this service.

Playaways

The library now participates in the Playaway Pool offered by Ontario Library Service North. Each self-contained Playaway is about the size of a deck of cards and contains one Audio Book. The library receives 30 Playaway titles every 3 months. We have also used a special Provincial Grant to update our Audio Books on CD, adding many new titles.