



SLFL volunteers gathered to prepare the Membership Campaign mailing.

(Photo provided – Pete Benson)

May is Membership Month

Christy Fontana

Who Is a Member?

If you have a library card you are a patron, which entitles you to all library services. You become a member when you fill out a membership form and make a contribution to the annual Membership Campaign.

Why a Membership Campaign?

This is the time of year when you are asked to renew your library membership or become a member for the first time. The SLFL is a Free Association Library not a Public Library. Although taxpayer dollars fund both types of libraries, the Saranac Lake Free Library receives little funding from state and federal sources. The founders of the SLFL chose to create a free library to ensure its independent status. To counter the shortfall in state and federal funding, the SLFL turns to its community for its much-needed contributions.

Not all library users are members. Library patrons who become members through their contributions have the privilege and pleasure of knowing that they support the library in its role as a vital resource for information and enrichment in the community. As a member of the Saranac Lake Free Library Association you are eligible for nomination as a library trustee, and can vote at the annual meeting in January. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the library's Membership Campaign.

Adirondack Research Room News

Curator Michele Tucker reports that a very interesting letter was recently donated to the collection from a person living in North Carolina. The letter was written on June 2, 1919, by a young woman, Olive, who was curing at 42 River Street. In the letter to her father Olive writes about her love for a young man, Gordon, who is the "dearest thing" as he reads to her as she rests in her cure chair. Using the names in the letter Michele was able to ascertain that the couple did marry, but Olive died 9 months later. Gordon married a second time and has a granddaughter who currently lives in Saranac Lake.

Have You Seen?

The lobby display arranged by Margaret Worden features memorabilia from the Netherlands, several pieces being contributed by Caperton and Will Tissot. These include a Delft Blue plate commissioned to honor Will's father and a friend of his who were well-known for lecturing on and coaching track and field events. Also included in the display are ice skates, tulips, dolls, speculaas (cookie molds), Delft Blue pottery and books. In the children's room is a display of vintage cardboard farm animals and "Farm Stories" (Tenggren).

Current Events Café

All are welcome to join this group for good coffee and conversation about local, national and world events. They will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the following Mondays: May 14, 21, June 4 and 11.

Science Book Group

On Tuesday, May 15, at 2 p.m. the Science Book Group will meet to discuss "Why You Eat What You Eat" by Rachel Herz.

Racism Study Group

The Racism Study Group will meet on Monday, June 11, at 2 p.m. to discuss "Bringing the War Home" by Kathleen Belew.

Story Time Program

Preschool Story Time will be offered on May 17, 24, and 31, at 10:30 a.m. in the Elinor B. Preis Children's Room. An end-of-the-year Story Time party will occur on June 7 at 10:30 a.m. Preschool Story Time will resume in mid-September.

Fiction Group

"Crocodile on the Sandbank" by Elizabeth Peters will be discussed on Tuesday, June 5, at 2 p.m.

Acquisition highlights

Fiction: "Circe" (Miller), "Twenty-One Days" (Perry), "Twisted Prey" (Sandford), "17th Suspect" (Patterson)

Nonfiction: "Brave New Arctic: the Untold Story of the Melting North" (Serreze), "Bring the War Home: The White Power Movement and Paramilitary America" (Belew), "The Food Explorer: The Adventures of the Globe-Trotting Botanist Who Transformed What America Eats" (Fairchild)

Large print: "Lady in Red: An Intimate Portrait of Nancy Reagan" (Tate), "I've Got My Eyes on You" (Clark), "Shoot First" (Woods), "The Sixth Day" (Coulter), "All the Beautiful Girls" (Church)

Juvenile Nonfiction: "Plant, Cook, Eat! A Children's Cookbook" (Archer)

Picture books: "Little Brothers & Little Sisters" (Arnaldo), "What If" (Berger), "Me and My Cars" (Slegers) "The Better Tree Fort" (Kerrin)

CDs: "When the English Fall" (Williams)

DVD's "Doc Martin" (Season 7), "Doc Martin" (Season 8), "Victoria" (Season 2)

Adirondack Room: "Renovation: Restoring the Heart and Finding a Home in the Adirondack Mountains" (Whyte), "Adirondack Cookbook" (Bond).

Reference: "The New York State Directory, 2018-2019."