

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director
14 Main St., Amherst NH
Phone 673-2288 Fax 672-6063
email: library@amherst.lib.nh.us
web http://www.amherst.lib.nh.us
Mon-Thu, 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Fri & Sat, 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sun, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Summer Hours June 13-Labor Day
Monday-Thursday 9:30-8:30 p.m.
Friday, 9:30-5:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9:30-12:30 p.m.
Sunday, Closed

Storytime

Here at the Amherst town Library, children and their families are very important to us...we know that early introduction to libraries helps to develop lifelong readers! We offer story programs for children from the time they're born right up until they enter first grade.

Storytime

2013-2014 Session Calendar:
We run five 6-week sessions during the school year:
Session 1 - week of Sept. 9 - Oct. 18
Session 2 - week of Nov. 4 - Dec. 13 (no storytimes Nov. 28 and 29--Thanksgiving)
Session 3 - week of Jan. 6 - Feb. 14
Session 4 - week of Mar. 3 - April 11 (no storytimes Thursday, Mar. 5)
Session 5 - week of April 28 - June 6

Toddler Time

Tuesdays at 10:00am, 2 and 3 year olds, Caregivers present

The Tuesday story time offers a variety of books, songs, finger plays and felt board activities for our young preschooler. Two or three stories geared to the younger child will be presented, and every 45-minute session concludes with a simple craft for child and caregiver to complete together.

Book Bunch

Thursdays at 10:00am and 1:00pm, 3 to 6 year olds
Our Book Bunch storytime is designed with the longer attention span of the older child in mind. These action-packed 45 minute programs include a wide variety of books, fingerplays, songs, and conclude with a theme-related craft.

Baby Listeners

Lapsit Storytime, Fridays at 10:30am, birth to 24 months, Caregivers present

Our "baby" group meets on Friday mornings and offers an opportunity for babies and their caregivers to gather for rhymes, songs and puppets. This 30-minute program emphasizes traditional rhymes that reinforce language patterns and provide for parent/child interaction. A simple book or two intended for this age is generally highlighted.

Book Clubs

Junior Book Club (grades 2-4), for parents and kids, 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 6:30pm

We talk about the books we read, do fun activities - and eat snacks!

The Great Stone Face Club (grades 5-6), 1st Wednesday of each month @ 6:30pm

Come read books from a "master list" of the newest kids' fiction. You can choose any book you'd like from the list—we don't all read the same thing at the same time. Then we "score" the books we read on a scale of 1-10. We meet to talk, talk, talk about our books, and to share the scores we've given. We can be very opinionated! Oh, and we snack while we talk! You can read one book a month, or you can read as many as you'd like.

Popcorn Eating Monsters Club (grades 7-8), 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 6:30pm

We do more than just eat popcorn! Members get together to talk about the latest young adult fiction, host parties ("Yay, Hunger Games!"), help out with a few library chores, and eat snacks! Call Miss Sarah at 673-2288 or click here to email for more information.

Lego-My-Library (ages 5 +)

Join us on the 3rd Friday of every month from 3:00pm-4:00pm

Here's your chance to come together with other Lego aficionados and spend the afternoon building, chatting, and just plain having fun. So come on down to the



library to build with our huge supply of legos!

Paws for Reading

Come to the Children's Room to read to Leo and Anna on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. 15-minute appointments run from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

A therapy-dog program to encourage emerging readers, and/or to help more experienced readers consolidate their reading skills. Anna and Leo would love to hear you read! Please note: Registration is required. Call 673-2288 or come in to the Children's Room to sign up!

Museum Passes

The Amherst Town Library offers free museum passes and discount coupons for local and Boston-area museums to Amherst Town Library cardholders. Passes are generously funded by the Friends of the Amherst Town Library.

Fells Historic Estate & Gardens at Lake Sunapee Newbury NH

Each pass admits up to 2 adults and accompanying children under age 18 to the Fells Main House and grounds. This pass is not valid for programs or events for which a fee applies.

Tower Hill Botanic Garden Boylston MA

Each pass admits 2 guests at half price.

Boston Children's Museum Boston MA

The Boston Children's Museum admits a maximum of 4 people at half price per person. Each coupon is dated and is for use on that day only.

Currier Museum of Art Manchester NH

Each pass provides free general admission for up to two adults 18 years or older. Children under 17 are admitted without charge. Passholders may participate in any programs offered free with general admission. Tours of the Zimmerman House are an additional charge and require pre-paid reservations.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Boston MA

Library Pass holders are charged a \$5 discounted admission fee per person up to 4 persons per pass. This general admission does not include concerts, lectures or other ticketed events. The museum is open ALL holidays except Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, Patriot's Day, and Independence Day.

Museum of Fine Arts Boston MA

Each pass admits up to two people for general admission for \$10.00 per person. Children under six are admitted for free at all times, children 7-17 are admitted for free on weekdays after 3 pm, weekends, and Boston public school holidays; otherwise \$10.00 per person. To view the special exhibits in the Gund Gallery, you may purchase a special exhibition ticket.

Museum of Science Boston MA

Pass admits up to four people at the reduced charge of \$7.00 per person. Present pass at the Box Office Non-Member window (Red Line). This ticket is not good towards purchase of Omni, Planetarium/Laser, 3D Digital Cinema, Butterfly Garden or special exhibit/combination tickets.

New England Aquarium Boston MA

Each pass admits up to four people for a reduced rate of \$10 per person. Reduced rate admission payment must be paid for at the Aquarium Box Office. Children under the age of 3 are not included in the admission count and are always admitted free. Library passes may not be applied toward Aquarium boat programs or IMAX shows.

Peabody Essex Museum Salem MA

Each pass entitles up to two adults to general admission at a reduced rate of \$5 per person. Admission to the Yin Yu Tang, the Chinese House, and special ticketed exhibitions require a separate fee.

Seacoast Science Center Rye NH

This pass allows two adults and their children or grandchildren (under age 18) from the same household free admission to the Seacoast Science Center.

SEE Science Center Manchester NH

Pass allows free admission for one family visit to SEE. ("Family" includes immediate members of a household plus grandparents.) See is geared for visitors ages 1 through adult.

It's About Conservation

Birches, Birds, Boys and Beer

BY BRUCE B. BECKLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Birches hold special places in our memories. They come in different colors, in name anyway – black and white, gray, red and yellow. It's the white species that jumps out in our New Hampshire scene. That's true more so up in the North Country where white birches punctuate the green of conifer forests. The Shelburne Birches along the Androscoggin draw tourists and cross-country skiing through the untracked birch and aspen stands in the glade off Wildcat Mountain is a delight.

Donald Culross Peattie writes in A Natural History of Trees about the white birch:

"It is now one of the best-loved trees of the New England landscape, and when we remember a scene there, we see birches in it – gleaming white trunks, houses, and churches painted a cold, clean white and pure country snow stretching white over hill and vale."

Robert Frost wrote of birches in another season. He was introduced to us ninth graders in Connecticut as we read his description of boys swinging on birches:

*"When I see birches bend to left and right
Across the lines of straighter darker trees,
I like to think some boy's been swinging them."*

Frost and ninth graders continue to go together. Lori Innes, an English teacher at Profile High School up in Bethlehem, writes in A/T Journeys about her classes focusing on the places they live. She organized field trips in the White Mountain

area as part of the curriculum. One of these took her students to the Frost Farm in Franconia. There, students were energized by Frost speaking to them through his poetical pictures. One student said, "I can't wait to write." And another wrote in his journal, "People have called our town a 'small' skiing town but to the people who live here it's much more than something small. The feeling just before snow falls can't be described...it builds in the stomach and spreads to every inch of the body."

I look out at our backyard birches, aflutter with chickadees and gold finches filching seeds from the catkins. They don't bend the birches, just the minds of the bird watchers. Ninth-grade English and field visits have a lot going for them. They can be door-openers for future writers, artists and woodlot lovers.

Oh yes, the beer. From Wikipedia, not Frost, a 1676 recipe:

To every Gallon whereof [birch sap], add a pound of refined Sugar, and boyl it about a quarter or half an hour; then set it to cool, and add a very little Yest to it, and it will ferment, and thereby purge itself from that little dross the Liquor and Sugar can yield: then put it in a Barrel, and add thereto a small proportion of Cinnamon and Mace bruised, about half an ounce of both to ten Gallons; then stop it very close, and about a month after bottle it; and in a few days you will have a most delicate brisk Wine of a flavor like unto Rhenish. Its Spirits are so volatile they are apt to break Bottles, unless placed in a Refrigeratory. Ale brewed of this Juice or Sap is esteemed very wholesome.



Amherst Town Library

Friends of the Library Book Sale September 13

AMHERST – Booklovers are urged to save a few hours on Saturday, September 13, to attend the Amherst Friends of the Library Book Sale. One of the largest book sales in the state, the Amherst sale boasts almost 14,000 books, 95% of which have been donated by a book loving and generous community. The quality of the books is known to be excellent. Many books, especially the children's books, are like new and make excellent Christmas gifts. Wise parents get there early!

The sale is held at the Amherst Congregational Church across from the village common where the Historical Society is holding their Antiques on the Green at the same time. The doors open at 8:00 AM for members and at 8:30 AM for the general public. For ten dollars new members may join at the door beginning at 7:30 AM. Prices are \$1.00 for most adult books and \$.50 for children's books.

Shoppers should come early to get the best selection. At 1:00 pm the doors are closed for fifteen min-

utes. When the doors reopen, books are priced at \$5.00 for a brown bag full. Empty bags are provided at the door. At 2:30, charities are invited to take the books they would like for no charge.

The book sale raises funds for special projects at the library including special collections, furnishings, and children's room projects. It also puts good books back into circulation and makes them available to people at minimal cost. It is a good situation all around!

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