

# The Dust Jacket



THE ORR'S ISLAND LIBRARY, WHERE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS GATHER

FALL 2014

## Five-year plan is a work in progress

The library's Board of Trustees has compiled a series of goals they hope to accomplish over the next five years. However, they say that this plan is intended to be more of a "work-in-progress" than a mandate. The following goals are not necessarily ranked in order of importance:

- **LOGO AND BRAND IMAGE**—create a logo and easily identified symbol for the library.
- **ART COLLECTION INVENTORY**—create an inventory of the library art collection for insurance purposes.
- **ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT TO SUPPORT THE MISSION**—movie screen, sound system,

See *PLAN*, page 3

## Inside this issue

The President's View	2
The Librarian's Desk	2
John Robbins: So long, but not good-bye	3
Book Sale & Fair	4
Martha's Window	4
Beating the hunger game	4
From the Shelves	5

## 2014 Annual Appeal

The Orr's Island Library began its 114<sup>th</sup> year of operation at the Annual Meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Our ability to renew and grow year after year is solely due to the generous support of our patrons, the Town of Harpswell, those who buy books and goodies at the Annual Book Sale and Fair, and who attend and donate to the several fund-raising events during the year.

Our trustee approved budget for this next year is \$45,715 a \$465 increase over the previous year. Keeping the budget in line is an annual challenge to ward against "budget creep" created from just the basics going up each year: insurance, the costs of books and CDs as one example. Then there are the surprise expenses such as the cost of propane gas during the coldest winter in recent memory. Rest assured that the Board of Trustees takes budgeting seriously. We are committed to expanding our collection, our service to the community in the form of no-cost events for all age groups, and the free availability of our building to Harpswell civic groups. It all comes with a cost. One we hope to share with you.

This issue of *The Dust Jacket* includes a white envelope for our Annual Appeal. It is an integral part of our operating budget. As I have asked in the past, help us to keep the lights on. We are most grateful for your loyalty and continued support.

*John Webster*

## Our Library Wish List

Some things are just not in our budget. Here are two things we would like to have and would welcome a library donor to step forward and help. Orr's Island Library Treasurer, John Webster will welcome your thoughts and gifts.

- Projection screen for "First Thursday" programs
- Cash grant for room darkening blinds for the *Moren* room

## The Librarian's Desk

What is our library? A place to choose a book or take out a movie – select a magazine to browse through – take home the telescope to view the night stars – join the book group for a thoughtful discussion of the latest choice – sit at the puzzle table for conversation and fun – attend an evening program on Harpswell's trails or a sharing of poetry or how to avoid the latest scam – receive help using your iPad or E-Book or computer – find a Great Books Course of your choice on DVD or CD – use our public computers or access our wireless either inside or not – or you could just sit and relax for a bit and sample from the candy basket – your choice – your library!

*Joanne Rogers*

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**5/23/15**

### Without a Trace

Confidential Shredding  
Service  
will return to

Orr's Island Library  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Free** document shredding  
for Harpswell residents and  
businesses.

There will also be a  
**Bake Sale.**

This free service courtesy of a grant  
from a local supporter.

## The President's View

What a journey since last Fall! So many projects, so many accolades, so many volunteers, so many library visits. Joanne continues to get praise for our renovated and enlarged 110 year-old historic library building. Some visitors have wondered if they could come and live at the library!

In my "View" last November I spoke about the development of a Five-Year Plan for the library and am pleased to report that a five-year plan was adopted and approved at the September trustees meeting. It is posted on the bulletin board in the library foyer so you may inspect it there. We sure could use some help in implementing the goals. Come talk with me and we'll make a plan for community involvement.

Successes this year included many "firsts": the first ever "Longest Yard Sale" last October. In May was the first-ever, **free** "Shredding Documents Day", supported by a local grant. The "Founders Day Dinner" at the Giant Stairs Seafood Grille & Restaurant was attended by nearly 40 enthusiastic, hungry diners. In June, for the first time, we hosted the Portland Public Library Bookmobile. Local residents could obtain library cards to the Portland Library, get advice on special programs available to residents of Cumberland County, and facilitate borrowing books from the Portland Library.

July held the "event of the season". Sally Jones presented her one-woman show "Mrs. Smith Goes to Washington" at Library Hall on Bailey Island. A sell-out crowd made the evening a huge success! We thank Steve Black for bringing this event to Harpswell, and to the anonymous-donor grant that made it possible.

This summer, the library organized six children's programs and events, ranging from live insects to hula-hoop fun. August 6<sup>th</sup> launched what would become our most successful Book Sale and Fair ever.

During 2013/14, Joanne organized funding drives for Mid Coast Hunger Prevention and raised funds for the school resource officers to provide back-pack food and other critical needs to members of this community. We also held a pet food drive to collect pet food and litter for the Meals On Wheels pets that provide such comfort to program participants. Thanks to the admirable support from our patrons, these additional funding initiatives enjoyed great success!

Two completed building-specific projects included an air-controlled system installed in June, thanks to a grant from the Alfred M. Senter Fund; and storm windows installed by Leslie T. Fossel Restoration Resources, on the original six diamond-pane windows dating from 1905. Grant funds from two anonymous donors made the window project possible.

See **VIEW**, page 5

## From the Shelves



### NEW FICTION

- MEAN STREAK** — Sandra Brown
- BIG LITTLE LIES** — Liane Moriarty
- THE CITY** — Dean Koontz
- POWER PLAY** — Catherine Coulter
- WAYFARING STRANGER** — James De Burke
- THE CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF LIES**  
Jacqueline Winspear
- THE KILL SWITCH** — James Rollins
- BOOK CLUBBED** — Lorna Barrett
- THE BLESSINGS** — Elsie Juska
- SENSE AND SENSIBILITY** — Joanna Trollope
- THE SON** — Jo Nesbo
- SOMEWHERE SAFE WITH SOMEBODY GOOD**  
Jan Karon
- THE SECRET PLACE** — Tana French
- THE BONE ORCHARD** — Paul Doiron
- AFTER I'M GONE** — Laura Lippman
- CUT AND THRUST** — Stuart Woods
- THE WILY O'REILLY** — Patrick Taylor
- A COLDER WAR** — Charles Cummings
- LOVE LETTERS** — Debbie Macomber
- KILLER** — Jonathan Kellerman
- THE VILLA** — Nora Roberts

### NEW NON-FICTION

- THE STORY OF A HAPPY MARRIAGE** —  
Ann Patchet
- THE SIXTH EXTINCTION** — Elizabeth Kolbert
- FLASH BOYS** — Michael Lewis

**THE TRIP TO ECHO SPRINGS** —  
Olivia Lang

**PERFECTLY MISERABLE** —  
Sarah Payne Stuart

### NEW CD's

- THE HEIST** — Daniel Silva
- THE SON** — Jo Nesbo
- THE WRECKER** — Clive Cussler
- A DARKNESS MORE THAN NIGHT** —  
Michael Connelly
- THE KILL SWITCH** — James Rollins
- CONSENT TO KILL** — Vince Flynn
- THE ENGLISH GIRL** — Daniel Silva

### NEW DVD's

- TRANSCENDENCE**
- THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL**
- THEY CAME TOGETHER**
- NOAH**
- DRAFT DAY**
- JACK RYAN, SHADOW RECRUIT**
- THE RAILWAY MAN**
- MISTER AND PETE**
- THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN 2**
- BLENDED**

“*Outside of a dog,  
a book is a man's  
best friend. Inside  
of a dog, it's too  
dark to read.*”

Groucho Marx

### VIEW, from page 2

Have you attended one of the *free* “First Thursday” programs held at the Library at 7 p.m.?

Each month, a speaker presents a topic of community interest. To date, these very popular programs have attracted loyal “regular” attendees, occasionally augmented by folks just interested in a particular topic. Between 15 and 40 folks attend these presentations. Going into our third year, “First Thursdays” are not to be missed! *See below for upcoming presentations.*

The 2015 schedule is available, and the brochure of programs can be picked up at the Orr's Island Library, Harpswell Town Hall and Curtis Memorial Library.

**We're going online!** Look for this issue and the Spring edition of *The Dust Jacket* at [orrsislandlibrary.org](http://orrsislandlibrary.org). Let us know what you think about making *The Dust Jacket* available online.

See you around the library!

John Webster

### Upcoming....

#### Nov. 6 Polly Kaufman

Ms. Kaufman, a Cundy's Harbor resident, will talk about growing up and attending Harpswell Islands schools.

#### Dec. 4 Beth Muldoon

Ms. Muldoon will perform dramatic readings from Clement Clarke Moore, including “*The Night Before Christmas*”.

THURSDAY



Our September 4<sup>th</sup> “First Thursday” program addressed raising older citizens’ awareness of scams directed at their segment of the community. The presenter was Cumberland County Sheriff, **Kevin Joyce** (right), under the auspices of the Merrymeeting Bay Triad (MBT) led by **Connie Lewis Hooker** (left). MBT tries to focus on ‘prevention’ through education of the elder population on topics such as local frauds and scams, financial fraud and staying safe. They arrange for experts from law enforcement or Maine state agencies to make presentations in the community.

## Martha's Window



In late autumn, when my window frames the swift change of leaves from green to gold to bronze, when the creeper vine that twines the stone wall flames fiery red, when the wild asters burst into clouds of blue stars, I bid farewell to summer. I begin to harvest memory, sustenance for the barren season ahead.

I see Winston, the coon cat, on the sill of the open window, basking in the sights and scents of Spring, nose and ears twitching in delight. After a while poppies and lupine and columbine bloom lush and vivid against white clapboards. Ribbons of sunlight spool across the meadow while angel-hair clouds drift leisurely aloft. The restless and charming catbird, the Mercutio of birds, frolics in the birdbath. At the church cove, dozens of tiny sandpipers wheel and veer in the air like silver fish swimming in the sunlight.

These are among the memories that are gathered into my winter storehouse. I've winnowed out storm and sorrow, the rude and annoying, the absence of loved ones, anything that impedes moving forward and giving thanks. I keep what befriends and sustains spirit.



we have  
WiFi

We have two computers,  
a printer and a copy machine.

## Volunteers and community are key to annual Book Sale success

Success is spelled only one way: TEAMWORK.

The unwavering support of our volunteers, and the community at large, made this annual Book Sale and Fair the most successful to date! We made just over \$11,000!

Traditionally, this event takes place at Jack Sylvester's field, overlooking Lowell's Cove, and runs from the first Wednesday in August through the following Saturday. The wide array of books, CDs, DVDs, puzzles and "white elephant" items, not to mention incredible baked goods and lunch offerings, present themselves to willing treasure seekers ready to scoop up their bargains. The more, the merrier for all proceeds support our beloved library!

We gratefully give credit where credit is due! **Joanne**

**Rogers**, our incredible librarian, spends countless hours from one August to the next, relentlessly sorting and organizing the items to be sold. **John Robbins** gets a thumbs up for managing the myriad logistics of setting up the Sale/Fair; and to **Jack Sylvester**, a heartfelt "Thank You", for without the use of his field, we'd be hard pressed to find such a perfect venue for this special community event!

Last, but not least, our deepest appreciation goes to the loyal donors, organizers, helpers, luggers, and buyers whose dedication makes this event so appealing, fun, and successful. Our profound thanks to the Harpswell community and beyond, for being such generous and supportive friends of the Orr's Island Library.

## "Back Packing" for hunger

During the months of July and August Joanne had a jar on her desk to collect money for the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program. The goal was to raise \$100. Amazingly, the donations totaled \$225! This might appear modest but it is not. Where, today, can you multiply a money donation or investment eight-fold? At MCHPP that's where!

The money collected gives MCHPP the buying power of \$1,800 for the \$225 investment provided by our library patrons. Now that's success!

As **Karen Parker**, MCHPP executive director, wrote to Joanne, this donation would be used for the back-to-school program called "Back Packs" (of food) to be expanded from 197 to 250 children in eight towns served.

"Thank you" to all who contributed to this very worthy cause.

## Robbins steps down, but not away

John Robbins was born in Kittery ME. At age five, his family moved to Badgers Island where he lived for twelve years and attended Robert W. Traip Academy. After graduating from Traip, he completed a post-graduate year at Kent's Hill School where he took courses to prepare him for an engineering curriculum in college.

John graduated from the University of Maine with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and then moved to Connecticut with his wife Betty, and Cindy their first child. He worked for three different companies there. They all noticed John's ability for creative problem solving, and definitely tapped into that talent.



**John Robbins**, stepping down from the Orr's Island Library Board of Trustees and stepping up to one of his many passions—dabbling in small engines. The man and his machine!

In 1971 he returned to Kittery with Betty and their three children. He lived there for 31 years, working as an engineer, owning and operating his own business, and raising his family.

In 2003 they left Kittery and moved to Bailey Island. John brought impressive credentials from his years in Kittery—7 years on the planning board, 2 1/2 years on the appeals board, and 2 1/2 years on the board of the Port Authority.

John has been a vital resource for the library, offering solutions to problems, mechanical and otherwise. Although he's resigning from the board, he assures us he will continue to support the library as he has done in the past.

No description of John would be complete without mentioning his fascination with small engines. He has a barn full of them and he's out scouting for more. He became interested as a young child fiddling with the engine on his father's boat. For John, a boat is just a place to put a motor.

John is a man of many talents, creative ideas and steadfast convictions. When asked to describe himself with four adjectives that he thought were appropriate he chose impulsive, creative, energetic, and talkative. There is one more unquestionable trait, and that is "reliable". According to Joanne Rogers, "John never failed to do what I asked him to do at the library. Never." Thank you, John, for all you've done to support the library.

*PLAN*, from page 1

room-darkening window blinds.

- **DIGITAL PROJECTS**—E-mail *The Dust Jacket* to all donors and patrons twice a year; create electronic list of library collections; two new dedicated computers—one for staff, one for patrons to access the collections; electronic patrons' list; electronic check-in, check-out system for library collections.

- **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**—Create a policies and procedures manual; make a succession plan; create job descriptions and evaluation system.

- **VOLUNTEERS**—New staffing kiosk/work surface; update volunteer manual and training; create volunteer recognition guidelines; start a "friends of the library" action group.

- **UNSERVED POPULATIONS**—Revamp children's programs; a housebound and elderly support program; survey to determine need; assistant librarian/program coordinator.

- **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**—Solve walkway water issues; bike rack installed; State of Maine signage on Rtes. 24 and 123.

- **CONTINUED FINANCIAL STABILITY**—Put aside one year's annual budget in a designated reserve fund.



**Orr's Island Library**  
1699 Harpswell Islands Road  
P.O. Box 175  
Orr's Island, Maine 04066

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### ***Library Hours:***

**Monday – 1 to 6 P.M.**

**Wednesday – 1 to 6 P.M.**

**Friday – 1 to 6 P.M.**

**Saturday – 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

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### ***Getting to the “art” of the matter***

## **2015 Orr's Island Library Calendar**

**D**o you know what day it is? You'll have no trouble when you consult the new 2015, 13-month, Orr's Island Library Calendar! This beautiful and unique compilation of seventeen artworks and treasures from the library's own collection is for sale at the library, the Island Candy Store on Orr's Island, and via post-paid. Proceeds from the sale support the library's annual budget.

The images in this third annual calendar range from 1905 original treasures to 2014 handmade ship models. All images appear in their original colors. Calendars cost \$10, and \$12 post-paid with receipt of a check.

With the holidays approaching, this calendar would make a truly wonderful gift for friends and family, in addition to “gifting” the library with your support. Quantities are limited this year so buy now or order by mail.



This is the calendar cover, a quilt-square depicting the 1905 library building, crafted by **Melissa Stuffebeam**, Joanne Rogers' granddaughter.