

# The Dust Jacket



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

SUMMER 2016

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“**The health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture, and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries.**”

Carl Sagan

## “Bridging” destiny: a painting’s journey

Last August, our library was the beneficiary of an extraordinary gift. When **Richard O. Card** passed away in May 2015, a list of inheritors were in line to claim the painting of the “*Old Orr’s Island Bridge*”, shown here. None accepted. The Orr’s Island Library was the last entity on that list, and our trustees gratefully accepted! Paul Ducharme of Framingham, MA, who represented the estate from which the painting came, delivered this beautiful treasure to us in August.



The “*Old Orr’s Island Bridge*” was painted by Richard Card’s grandfather, **Norris Edgar Card**, in 1888. It’s truly a twist of fate that the library had a wall large enough to accommodate the painting which now resides in the Sumner Family Room. The space had been occupied by an artwork on long-term loan from our own Harpswell artist, Brad McFadden.

Depicting the old Orr’s Island bridge as it appeared in 1888, the painting closely resembles postcard images from around that time. This painting displays incredible detail such as: a man and a woman strolling, a man with a rifle, a boy with a switch, and a young man fishing from a side of the bridge. Also notice the amazing frame, in remarkably intact condition, highlighting the pineapple and pomegranate motif in gold leaf. To truly appreciate the size and detail of this artwork, you **must** see it in person!

The painting was very dirty, having hung on the same wall of a Bath home perhaps since 1888. **Douglas Bane** of Orr’s Island, a professional conservator, cleaned and varnished the

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## The President's View

The Orr's Island Library is a beehive of activity. New books and DVD's are coming and going at a fast rate. The computer is in constant use, the 1<sup>st</sup> *Thursday* and *Health Talk* programs attract more and more folks each month. The community outreach collections on Joanne's desk have been generous, and the resulting help given to Harpswell Community School is immeasurable. The "Coffee for the Troops" box overflows with donations. The growing Book Club causes a traffic jam in front of the library every month. This is a rewarding state of affairs!

And now, the rest of the story.... As our patrons know, the library has benefitted from remarkable financial support over the years. Though the high level of support continues, we are beginning to witness a financial downturn that we attribute to donor loss among our aging population.

Over the last two years in particular, the library has lost a significant number of generous donors. It is not easy to replace that loss of funding. Thankfully, the Town of Harpswell approved an increase of funds for the library in its next fiscal year. Unfortunately, as our donor base diminishes, so goes our revenue.

As a private non-profit, the trustees operate the Orr's Island Library for the public good, open to all, and in every case possible, services are free of charge. Help us to rejuvenate our donor base. No donation is too small...or too large.

*John Webster*

## "Winter Surf at Giant Stairs"



**Douglas Bane** an Orr's Island painter, sculptor and conservator has donated his painting, *Winter Surf at Giant Stairs* to the library art collection. Doug also hand-carved the frame which encases his painting. This image is the one selected by the Town of Harpswell to be used on the welcome signs at the entrance to our town. We are pleased to have this painting in our collection and thank Doug for his generosity.

## Founder's Day gathering celebrates OIL's 116 years

On Wednesday, May 25, thirty Orr's Island Library supporters gathered at the Giant Stairs Seafood Grille, Bailey Island to celebrate the 116<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Library's establishment. Attendees donated \$10 per plate to support the Library's general operating fund.

Following a delicious meal prepared by Heather Coffin, Betty Robbins, (pictured at right), held the winning door prize ticket, and went home with a treasure trove of goodies in a lovely basket!

The library trustees want to thank Chris and Heather Coffin for making this event possible.



## In Memoriam

### VIVIAN ADDISON

The Orr's Island Library lost not only a long-time employee, but a long-time friend in Vivian. After a long period of declining health, she passed away on December 11, 2015.



Vivian served as the Assistant Librarian for years, from June through September while in residence at her summer home on Bailey Island. She retreated to Leeds in the colder months.

Her special interest was the library's Annual Book Sale and Fair. She worked diligently to see that the sale books were made ready for the big event.

Wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and teacher, she was a joy to all who interacted with her. The Orr's Island Library family has lost a true friend.

### HAROLD "BUD" EDWARDS

The Orr's Island Library family mourns the loss of Bud Edwards.

Bud passed away on May 16, 2016. A very long-time seasonal resident of Orr's Island, Bud was perhaps the longest serving library trustee, and attained *Emeritus* a few years ago.



Bud, who chaired the library's Finance Committee, put aside a little bit every year for *decades* in a "special project fund" that eventually helped finance our renovation and expansion. Over the years Bud also funded various library collection projects. Active in community affairs, he supported the Orr's and Bailey Island's Fire Department, and the Island Community Church, singing in the choir until recently.

SAVE ~~THE~~ DATE!  
MAY 20, 2017



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

On Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> *Without A Trace* shredding truck returned to the Library. Harpswell residents and business folks filled fifteen large bins by the time their personal papers were shredded. This equalled last year's haul! In addition to the beautiful weather, a well-stocked bake sale set its own record—the library made \$400—the most ever made at this event. Many thanks to the talented bakers in our area.

This free, annual public service event is made possible through the generosity of a private donor. "*The Shredder*" will return on **May 20, 2017**. So folks are encouraged to start setting aside their unwanted papers now to avoid a last-minute crunch.

## ClearView machine a boon to the vision-challenged

The Orr's Island Library recently lost a long time supporter, **Nan Stockman**. In Nan's memory her family has donated to the library an Optelec ClearView.

This machine is an auto-focus electronic magnification system developed by Optelec in the Netherlands. The ClearView enables you to read, write, view photos, do work and much more. It magnifies and enhances text, objects and images in different colors, brightness, and contrast. It is easy to operate. It comes with an easy-to-read manual.

The library is pleased to offer this machine for long-term loan. Contact Joanne Rogers at 833.7811, for more details.



## ORR'S ISLAND LIBRARY

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## Martha's Window



Early on a morning in late fall the sky is velvet black studded with stars. The sea is speaking fortissimo after a stormy night. I list the last seasonal chores—hose off, storm windows down, the lavender lawn chair stowed. Trees have surrendered their leaves to the wind and offer bare limbs skyward.

In the winter that follows, when cold is a constant and the cat keeps my feet toasty, I welcome solitude. I inhabit a peaceful space when, as Wordsworth says, “the hurrying world parts us from our better selves”. I find comfort in a fleece nightgown, creamy mac and cheese and savory stew, the impeccable piano artistry of Andras Schiff and John O’Conor, a good gab with friends at the library, rereading a beloved author, and paging through the album of memory.

Finally the season turns toward Spring. Though the sky is grey, the dooryard is greening, an amorous cardinal calls, and the first goldfinch appears at the porch feeder. The celestial music of Bach paints the morning air with brilliant color. I greet the season that rewards our winter patience with bird-song and bloom.

Soon summer will arrive with its passionate radiance and feast for the senses. In a time of worldly turmoil and uncertainty, we can find reassurance in the eternal cycle of season after season until time ends.

### **A living memorial— there’s no greater tribute**

A new tree to honor George B. Weir now graces the library landscape. Martha Weir has generously made a gift of a white Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus Kousa*) in memory of her late husband, George. We planted the tree on May 9, and already it’s adorned with new growth.

The renovation of the library included a new landscape plan and over time it will be completed. We thank Martha for this thoughtful gift to enhance our campus and soothe our souls.



“Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities.”

R. David Lankes

# From the Shelves



## NEW BOOKS – FICTION

“The 15<sup>th</sup> Affair” – James Patterson

“As Time Goes By” – Mary Higgins Clark

“The 14<sup>th</sup> Colony” – Steve Berry

“Extreme Prey” – John Sandford

“Off the Grid” – C. J. Box

“Miller’s Valley” – Anna Quindlen

“Fin Gall” – James Nelson

“Family Jewels” – Stewart Woods

“Fool Me Once” – Harlan Cohen

“The Last Mike” – David Baldacci

“The Girls She Left Behind” – Monica Wood

“Journey to Munich” – Jacqueline Winspear

## NEW NON-FICTION

“At Home” – Bill Bryson

“Letting Go” – Morrie Schwartz

“Christianity” – Diamaid MacCulloch

“Birth, Death and a Tractor” – Kelly Payson-Roopchand

“Tough as They Come” – SSG Travis Mills

“Grandma Gatewood’s Walk” – Ben Montgomery

“Concussion” – Jeanne Marie Lasker

“To Eat a Country Life” – Joe Eck and Wayne Winterrowd

“Birds of a Feather” – Paul Fournier

“The Givenness of Things” – Marilynne Robinson

“American Character” – Colin Woodard

## NEW CD’S

“Make” – Lee Child

“The Wright Brothers” – David McCullough

“The Ice Limit” – Preston Childs

“Thomas Jefferson and the Pirates” – Brian Kilmeade

“The Devil Wins” – Robert Parker

“Shadow of Power” – Steve Martini

“Gumption” – Nick Offerman

## NEW DVD’S

Concussion

Star Wars

London Spy

Lady in the Van

The 5th Wave

The Revenant

Jay

Brooklyn

Spotlight

Black Mass

Carol

The Peanuts Movie

In the Heart of the Sea

## LIBRARY SERVICES:



we have **WiFi** • 2 computers  
• a printer  
• a copy/fax machine.

## 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.

*BRIDGE*, from page 1

painting earlier this year. Two donors came forward to underwrite those costs.

Richard O. Card was born in Bath and had a banking career in Boston before retiring back to Bath. We know little about his grandfather, the artist, or Richard, who had the foresight to list the library as a beneficiary. Who could have foretold that a blank wall at our library would be available 128 years after this painting was completed, to display this extraordinary gift for the enjoyment of the library and the Harpswell community.

## Our Wish List

If you or your business can help defray the costs of operating the Orr’s Island Library this fiscal year or next, we want to hear from you. (Our fiscal year ends on July 31).

1. Our children’s programs cost \$250 each. We need to fund 3 programs.

2. We need to replace 5 more tables for the Annual Book Sale: \$500.

3. We would love an awning over our “front door”: about \$1,000.

4. The cost of the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday programs: \$150 per year.

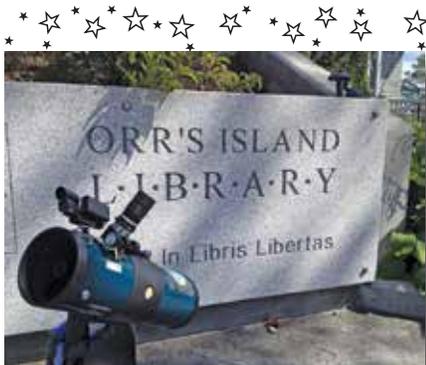
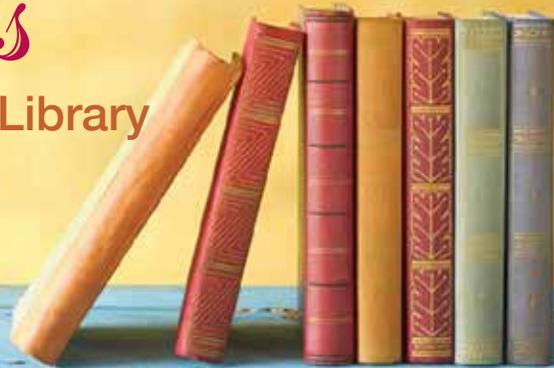
5. Our magazine subscriptions: \$100 a year.

6. We would like to install window blinds in the Sue Fisher Memorial Reading Room: about \$3,000.

If there is some other element of the annual budget you would like to support publicly or privately, contact John Webster, or Joanne Rogers for more information.

# Happenings

at the Orr's Island Library



## Star-gazing, anyone?

We're not talking the Hollywood crowd here. We mean REAL stars! You know, the kind that twinkle around the universe? Ever thought of having a "ST☆R P☆RTY"? Well, now you can. All you need is a dark, clear night and one of our two—count 'em 2—**Orion Night Telescopes** ready to loan.

So go ahead, break out your constellations book (or maybe borrow one from the Library!) and invite **your** "A-listers" to a summer star-gazing party at your home. Could be your ticket to the Walk of Fame (Oops, we're not in Hollywood). However, if you are not so inclined, as soon as the members of the **Southern Maine Astronomer Club** can coordinate another "star" date we will announce it on our web site. Stay tuned. . . .

## It's music to my ears!

On **Saturday, July 23** the Orr's Island Library will host a **free** Community Concert, presented by students from the **Bowdoin International Music Festival**. The concert will be held in the Community Church at the Orr's Island Cemetery from 2 to 3 P.M. Watch for more details on our website and in the press.



## NEW DATE!

### World's Longest Yard Sale



## Better bargains, ayuh!

For the 4<sup>th</sup> year the library will host a community yard sale across the front lawn of the library. Seeking more favorable weather, the date has been moved up to **Sept. 3**, with the **rain date Sept. 4**.

Set-up fee is \$10 by reservation (no deposits) and each dealer gets a 6' table. Folks can bring more tables if needed. Contact **John Webster** at **833-5430** or **jwebster85@comcast.net** to reserve a table.



**July 7: Nancy Johnson Jensen**  
Nancy will share what it was like to grow up on Bailey Island in a much simpler time.  
Drawing on family history a story

evolves that takes those who remember how it was on a memorable journey.

## August 4: Annual Book Sale

On this, the second day of the Annual Library Book Sale, we will see you at Lowell's Cove, Orr's Island, beginning at 10 A.M.

See *next page*

**September 1: John & Margo Almeida**

They took 10 years to traverse the globe. John and Margo, longtime Orr's Island residents, will relive their journey on the *Calypso*, their 40-foot Valiant, across the seas of the world.

**October 6: Bill Cotter**

Join a trip through Orr's Island history as Bill relates his first-hand experiences growing up on Orr's Island nearly a century ago.

**November 3: Joy Johnson**

*"Embrace A Vet" (EAV)*

Several years ago, Joy founded EAV in Cundy's Harbor to combat post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injuries in our returning veterans, and for those who returned decades ago from Nam. Now with a pet initiative, **"Paws for Peace"**, she is making a difference in the lives of those vets.

**December 1: Harpswell Heritage Apples** *"Lets talk and taste apples!"*

This dedicated apple group will discuss finding interesting but forgotten Harpswell apples. The trees are grafted and made available for sale. We will taste-test some of their products.

\*All library programs subject to change\*

# Children's Summer Programs

Suitable for children kindergarten age and up.

**Wednesdays** ✦ **Orr's Island Library** ✦ **10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

Programs are **FREE** and last about 1 hour

**July 6: The Bugmobile.** Folks from Chewonki will be using live insects, costumes, and models to help you learn all about those fascinating creepy crawlers we know and love called bugs!

**July 13: Conjuring Carroll.** Returning by popular demand, Conjuring Carroll will amaze and delight, skillfully using magic to explore the fascinating world of libraries and their importance to young minds and imaginations.

**July 20: Fur, Feathers & Feet—Birds & Mammals.** Have you ever met a duck up close and personal? Well, Chewonki staff will gladly introduce you. You might also get a chance to meet a surprise mammal in this really neat Chewonki presentation.

**July 27: Scales & Tails: Amazing Reptiles.** Let the Chewonki staff allay your fear of slithery, crawly creatures with their live non-releasable reptiles, and an introduction to major groups of reptiles for hands-on fun!

**Aug. 3: Hula Hoop Mania at the Annual Book Sale & Fair.** 10 A.M. at Lowell's Cove, Orr's Island. Amanda Walden supplies the hula hoops and music for Hula Hoop Mania! Bring your own hoop if you have one. See you at the Children's Tent. Other games & events until 2 P.M.

**For more information about these programs, please call 207.833.7811.**

## Summer reading and baseball? Get in *The Game!*

Hey kids! If you like baseball and you like to read, here's a fabulous opportunity to enjoy both this summer! The Orr's Island Library, partnering with the Portland Sea Dogs, is offering free, general-admission game vouchers to all children who register for our **Summer Reading Program**. All children can participate—independent readers and those who are read to. The Sea Dogs organization is providing the free vouchers.

Hey parents and grandparents! Are you looking for some quality family time? Read with your kids. Enjoy a baseball game together. Stop in at the Library and sign up your child, children, or grandchildren for this awesome program. Bring along your child's reading log, tracking their reading, to pick up your free ticket voucher(s) to any Sea Dogs game from June 1 – August 28. And don't forget your baseball mitt. You never know where those foul balls are going to go!

Program materials will be at the Orr's Island Library. Need more information? Call the Library, 207.833.7811.



**Get In The Game, READ!**

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

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*COME CELEBRATE  
OUR ANNUAL*

# Book Sale & Fair

(RAIN OR SHINE!)

**August 3** 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.  
at Sylvester Field, Lowell's Cove on Orr's Island

BOOKS ♦ CDS ♦ DVDS ♦ PUZZLES ♦ "WHITE ELEPHANT ITEMS" ♦ HOMEMADE  
BAKED GOODIES ♦ YUMMY LUNCH STUFF ♦ KIDS' GAMES ♦ HULA-HOOP  
MANIA ♦ AND OTHER ASSORTED ENTERTAINMENT.

THE BOOK SALE CONTINUES THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY UNTIL ALL  
THE BOOKS ARE SOLD!

Don't miss out on this once-a-year opportunity to have  
lots of fun and part with your \$\$\$ for a great cause!