

Kids' Carnival and Tag Sale July 5

The Kids' Carnival and Tag Sale has become an annual event at the Library with this year's carnival scheduled to take place on Friday, July 5, a holiday, from 10 am to 1 pm. Held on the library's front lawn and driveway, all of the booths and activities are created and manned by kids. There will be shaved ice for a centennial snack, wheelbarrow rides, face painting, jugglers, and lots more fun.

The Library will be collecting bikes and toys for older kids in the week before the Tag Sale. A jolly and carefree time is guaranteed. For more details or questions, call the Library at 508-548-8961.

What Woods Hole Read This Winter ...

Books: *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
The Man from Beijing by Henning Mankell
The Girl Who Played with Fire by Steig Larsson
The Game Change by John Heilemann
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca

Sloot

Stones into Schools by Greg Mortenson

DVDs: *Midsomer Murder Series*
Mad Men
The Wire



Margaret McCormick and Nancy Babin open the library.

What Woods Hole might have read in 1910....

E. M. Forster: *A Room with a View*, 1908; *Howards End*, 1910
Henry James: *Stories and Essays*
Jack London: *The Iron Heel*, 1908; *War of the Classes*, 1908
Gertrude Stein: *Three Lives*, 1908
H. G. Wells: *Tono-Bungay*, 1908; *The History of Mr. Polly*, 1910
Edith Wharton: *House of Mirth*, 1910

L. Frank Baum: *Emerald City of Oz*, 1910
Thornton Burgess: *Old Mother West Wind*, 1910
Kenneth Grahame: *The Wind in the Willows*, 1908
Lucy Maud Montgomery: *Anne of Green Gables*, 1908; *Anne of Avonlea*, 1909
Beatrix Potter: *The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck*, 1908

Poems by Rudyard Kipling and William Butler Yeats



WOODS HOLE LIBRARY NEWS

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100 Candles for the Library!

Building on the holdings of the Woods Hole Social Library, founded in February 1873, the Woods Hole Public Library was incorporated on August 1, 1910. The eight signatures on the incorporation statement include surnames well known to us today: Walter Luscombe, Ezra Locke, Joseph Walsh, Franklin Gifford, George Fisher, Josephine Fish, and Azariah Crowell declared their interest in maintaining not only a library of books and periodicals but also a place of assembly, a reading room, and a collection of historical items and memorabilia related to the village.

The new corporation could only afford to buy land in 1910, so the 2,000 books it owned were installed in a vacant room in the Woods Hole School where they were available for loan until January 1913, when the stone building that is the core of today's library opened for business.

By 1926, the Library held nearly 5,000 books. 9,000 items (books and magazines) were circulated that year (1,929 in August, 273 in October). A local periodical noted about that time that Librarians "Mrs. E.W. Rohmeling and Mrs. S.F. Peck are always glad of the opportunity to loan you a book." There were 150 dollar-a-year Library members, and 46 sustaining members paid \$10 (a life membership cost \$100.)

The tradition of musical fundraisers was set at least by the 1930s, and need for a Library addition was being discussed by 1937. Fourteen years later, in 1951, the Library Board at last appropriated \$10,000 from a reserve fund, initiated a campaign to raise another \$5,000, and launched a doubling of the floor space. In 1965, the Library had hot water for

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A Midsummer Night's Sinfonietta: Celebrating WHPL's Centennial

"I've loved the Library since I was a little girl," observes lifelong summer resident Bonnie Ward Simon. Her love for music and for the Library has led Bonnie and her husband, Maestro Stephen Simon, to offer—in honor of the Library's centennial—a unique concert program and special summer performance of their Simon Sinfonietta. The concert will take place on Sunday, July 11, at 7:30 p.m. at Highfield Hall in Falmouth, with proceeds benefiting the Library.

For the past six concert seasons the Simons have presented the Simon Sinfonietta series at Falmouth Academy. The proceeds of ticket sales benefit Falmouth Academy, Highfield Hall, and NPR station WCAI. The series has

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Stephen and Bonnie Simon

Library Hours

Mondays Noon - 5:30, 7 - 9
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 3 - 5:30
Wednesdays 10 - 5:30, 7-9
Saturdays Noon - 5:30

Woods Hole Public Library
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fax: 508 540 1969 • woodsholepubliclibrary.org

A Midsummer Night's Sinfonietta

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earned a loyal following, attracting both a devoted audience and also a core 40-member chamber orchestra drawn from around the New England area. The sold-out concerts take place between early autumn and late spring. Stephen Simon, for over 25 years the conductor and music director of the Washington Chamber Symphony at the Kennedy Center, is esteemed by fellow musicians for his extensive knowledge of a wide musical repertoire, resulting in his offering programs which combine familiar and rarely performed pieces that delight audiences and musicians alike. Even his program notes are fascinating, providing historical context as well as illuminating discussions of the musical scores.

The program for the special summer Sinfonietta was designed with great care, to honor the Library and to appeal to a wide audience. Not only were four of the five composers born within a dozen years of the 1910 founding of the Library, but in addition, the program deliberately contains literary references. The concert will open with selections from Mendelssohn's *Incidental Music from A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Aaron Copland's *Quiet City*, originally composed as incidental music for the Irwin Shaw play and later rewritten as a suite, will follow, with its haunting solo parts for English horn and trumpet. The first half of the program will conclude with Benjamin Britten's *Simple Symphony*, a nod to the English language. Employing themes he wrote between the ages of nine and twelve, Britten composed this small chamber symphony when he was only twenty years old. The second half will open with Vincent Persichetti's *The Hollow Men*, a work for solo trumpet and strings, which the composer felt paralleled the mood of the T.S. Eliot poem. The evening will conclude with George Gershwin's ever-popular *Rhapsody in Blue* with Robert Wyatt, Gershwin scholar and Highfield Hall music director, as soloist in the Ferde Grofe orchestral version of the work.

The special Midsummer Night's Sinfonietta concert will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on July 11, in a beautiful, spacious tent on the grounds beside Highfield Hall. Extra parking will be available behind Highfield Theater. The Library staff and trustees are delighted that the summer community at last will have an opportunity to enjoy a Simon Sinfonietta, and are grateful for Bonnie and Stephen's generosity.



100 Candles

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the first time as a side benefit of a new furnace, the first telephone would come two years later, and donation of a typewriter in 1968 allowed typing of catalog cards for the first time.

The children's section has been a consistent Library focus through the years with careful selection of books as its goal. Adult programming has included a wide variety of events from poetry and short story readings to plays and concerts. The first book sale was held on a couple of tables in front of Community Hall in 1967, and the first plant sale took place in 1971.

The Library's Woods Hole Historical Collection (WHCC) Committee formed in 1974 to undertake cataloging of artifacts and papers held by the Library, aiming successfully to mount a US bicentennial exhibit in Bradley House, which had been given to the Library by the Fay family in 1949 and rented out for various purposes since then. WHCC counted a thousand visitors to its first-floor Bradley House exhibits in 1977, and would soon occupy the entire building for archival and exhibit purposes, as it does today.

The bequest of Tom Ratcliffe's estate in 1981 eventually sparked a new capital campaign to support expansion and renovation of the Library, completed in 1990. Today, the Woods Hole Public Library is open 30 hours each week and counts more than 500 members, many of whom volunteer for the Library. It is a member of the Cape Libraries Automated Materials Sharing (CLAMS) system, holds a collection of more than 30,000 titles, circulates over 20,000, and offers a lively program of concerts, lectures, readings, plays, movies, and other activities.

Mark Your Calendar for Celebrations on August 1

The Centennial Committee of the Woods Hole Public Library will hold a festive, community celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Library's incorporation on the afternoon of August 1st. From 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., there will be children's activities and games of interest for all ages. Musical performances will feature Eddie and Donna Scheer, the men's a cappella group NoteScape.Cod, and members of the Woods Hole Folk Orchestra. Contents of a time capsule designed for opening in 2110 will be on display, along with books published around 1910. Memorabilia for sale will include centennial magnets, T-shirts, tote bags, calendars, and quilt note cards.

Refreshments will include birthday cake, popcorn, snow cones, lemonade and cranberry juice. There may be a chance to crank an ice cream maker as well to buy ice cream. The Historical Museum will be open, with exhibits featuring the Library and the village of Woods Hole around 1910, and also a recording booth will be set up for sharing memories about the Library.

Planning for this celebration is in progress. Vintage cars, bicycles, clothing, and memorabilia for display are welcome. If you have an item you would be willing to share, please contact us. Volunteers will be needed to supervise various activities and food booths as well as to take hour-long stints dispensing food or helping in other ways. Please let the Library staff or Centennial Committee members know if you'd like to help make this event a success.

Committee members eager for your input are Donna Due Brown, Catherine Cramer, Vicky Cullen (chair), Suzanne Currier, Wendy Denton, Prosser Gifford, Jennifer Gaines, Linda Calmes Jones, Margaret McCormick, Terry McKee, Nawrie Meigs-Brown, Pamela Nelson, and Shirley Wozena.

And for Additional Fall Events Marking Our 100th!

The Centennial Celebration continues into the autumn with two events featuring literature from the same period as the Library's incorporation.

Edith Wharton's *House of Mirth* will be the focus of a two-part program with a book discussion one week followed by a viewing of the film adaptation of the novel the following week. The novel, originally published in 1905, depicts the young Lily Bart and her conflict with the upper echelons of society in turn of the century New York. It became an immediate best seller, and remained popular for years, even up to the present

An evening of poetry, with poems from 1910 read by modern-day poets is also planned. Stay tuned for more details as the time draws closer.



Broadening the Concept of the Lending Library

Patrons of the Woods Hole Public Library will not be surprised that their Library has become a leader in expanding the definition of the “lending library.” This year it has had the opportunity to move beyond the traditional loaning of books, tapes, videos, and CD’s, and in the process has made a positive impact on the local community and on other libraries in the CLAMS system.

Highfield Hall hosted an exhibit entitled Falmouth Goes Whaling: The Paintings of Franklin Lewis Gifford for the month of April. Sponsors of the exhibit included the Falmouth Historical Society, the Woods Hole Historical Collection and Museum (WHHCM,) and the Woods Hole Public Library. Jennifer Gaines, Museum Director and WHPL librarian, selected paintings from the Library’s large collection of Gifford paintings to loan to Highfield for the show. The exhibit dovetailed with town-wide events associated with the selection of Moby Dick for this year’s Falmouth Reads project.

Story Hour for Grownups has inspired the West Yarmouth Library to begin its own monthly program. “Good Stories, Well Read” is modeled on the Woods Hole Library’s successful program.

For Poetry Month in April, the Library presented a very ambitious project. Singer Stephanie Miele and Naomi Arenberg, afternoon host of local NPR station WCAI, put together a musical event, selecting seventeen poems previously set to music. Each poem was read first by local actors Muriel Gould and Grant Willis, both known for their moving interpretations of poetry. Musical accompaniment was provided by three musicians, on keyboard, guitar, and concertina. Recognizing that such a program deserved a wider audience, Naomi’s husband encouraged her to offer to perform at the Vineyard Haven Library as well. Of course the Vineyard Haven Library was delighted to accept the offer, with an additional performance there.

Stephanie Miele and Dan Tritle (morning host of WCAI) recently presented a reprise of Mark Twain’s Diaries of Adam and Eve for the annual meeting of the Falmouth Friends of the Library. They had initially performed this program in 2008, at the Woods Hole Library as a Library fundraiser.

Many libraries in the CLAMS system offer ambitious events and programs, especially in the winter. By sharing our events, we increase the number of patrons who have the opportunity to enjoy them, and make the hours of work put in by the performers even more worthwhile. We might even provide a second chance for a patron to catch an event that they were unable to attend. Sharing is what libraries are all about, and by adding these programs to our shared resources, we improve our service to our patrons. So, come out and enjoy these events, wherever they are held.



On-Line Giving is available on the WHPL website

The convenience of secure on-line giving has been added to the library website. Clicking the Secure Donations link in the left sidebar of the main page will bring you to a site, where you can choose an amount, then enter your credit card information or donate through your PayPal account, if you have one.

All donations are acknowledged via email immediately and personally from the library shortly afterwards. The site is easy to use with clear instructions. If you wish to be guided through the process, please see Kellie at the front desk.

Who Knew? WHPL’s Kellie Porter

The Library is not a static operation. The last ten years have seen tremendous changes, and yet in tone and atmosphere it remains remarkably the same. Bringing change to an institution as beloved as the Library is a tricky process. After all, we all know “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.”

Kellie Porter joined the staff in the spring of 2007. The following winter, we were cheered on gloomy days to see her smiling face at the front desk. We recalled hearing that she had graduated from the classical liberal arts college, St. John’s College in Annapolis, Maryland, with its Great Books Curriculum, and that she had a master’s degree in literature from the University of Chicago. Excellent credentials. She was friendly and remembered people’s names. With youth as an asset, Kellie has brought to us, oh so subtly, the clear vision, fearlessness, and zest for innovation of the younger generation.

Imagine a library patron sitting at one of the computers, struggling with email or with a search engine. Kellie appears, sits down, provides gentle guidance. Undaunted by technical problems, when Story Hour for Grownups needed a sound amplification system, Kellie and Library Director Margaret McCormick selected a compact sound system, perfect for the Library’s modest needs, and Kellie patiently explained how to set it up. When the microphone developed glitches, Kellie was there to trouble-shoot. When the glitches became insurmountable, she oversaw its replacement with a reliable model.

In consultation with fellow librarian Nancy Babin, who has been in charge of selecting and ordering movies and audiobooks, Kellie instituted a Saturday family movie series, offering a devoted following of kids a fun place to go on a miserable winter afternoon. In January, 2010, Kellie started a short story discussion group that meets the last Wednesday evening of the month. Her March session brought twenty animated

Kellie Porter and Winnie Mackey work on felted mittens.

readers, ages ranging from early thirties to nonagenarians, for a lively, noisy discussion. A skillful moderator, she begins each meeting with a provocative question, and she is able to take control when side-discussions erupt. Her groups draw a thoughtful crowd, and a great variety of opinions and ideas are generated and shared, under her supervision.

In conjunction with the Craft Workshops program sponsored by the Woods Hole Historical Collection and Museum, Margaret and Kellie have offered a wool fabric project the past two winters. Last year they made tote bags and handbags from recycled garments (such as old suits,) and this year they oversaw a mitten-making project, from discarded wool sweaters, which Kellie had felted prior to the workshop.

Wonder what is going on at the Library? Go to its web site and look at Kellie’s blog. If you are inclined, there are Facebook and Twitter submissions from Kellie as well.

Before Kellie arrived, we didn’t know what we were missing! Walk into the Library now. It looks and feels the same. But it is also different. Kellie is here. Come say hello and enjoy her distinctive presence with the rest of us.



Picture This!

Many of us find we can call to mind what Woods Hole looked like long before the Library had a permanent home. We can picture the launching of a whaler built in Woods Hole, with three-masted vessels nearby in Great Harbor. We are aware that there were very few buildings around Eel Pond when men with large buckets went out eeling through the ice on Eel Pond; and we can somehow vaguely recall a time when Candle House had an unobstructed view of the whaling ships setting out and returning home. These images are in our collective memories because we have seen these images in the historic paintings of Franklin L. Gifford on permanent display in the Library. In that collection, we have been given a window into the history of Woods Hole.

The Library offers other historical works of art for appreciation by its patrons. On display in the Ratcliffe Room is a painting of Thomas Ratcliffe as a youth, as well as a gorgeous watercolor of his estate in Cumloden, with its unusual green-roofed cupola. In various locations, viewers will find assorted paintings of ships and smaller vessels of bygone days.

The affection of the community for the Library itself is demonstrated by a diverse collection of portraits of the Library building: a pen and ink drawing by Joan Kanwisher, a watercolor by Marion Arnold, and an oblique view of the building, by Doug Rugh. A likeness in fabric is the centerpiece of the Woods Hole Village quilt. Recently, arriving in time to celebrate its Centennial, the Library has received two new works. One, by longtime Library patron San Lyman, is a portrait of the Library on a brilliant winter day, the stonework bright and cheery, as if illuminated from within. The shadow of a leafless tree falling diagonally across the front steps emphasizes the brightness of the day, and the pine tree which stood for years over the bicycle stand and which fell in a recent storm, makes its farewell appearance at the edge of the painting.

The other recent arrival is on extended loan from fabric artist Salley Mavor, who designed the Woods Hole Village Quilt, which hangs in the Library stairwell. Her marvelous "Autobiography" is a spiral trail of doll-sized versions of herself through the years, from birth to her fiftieth birthday. The progression of clothing worn by each doll is a miniature fashion history in itself. It is a work to visit and savor.

We hope you will drop by the Library to visit its amazing collection of artwork. You may find yourself marveling at the love and loyalty it has inspired in the community and among its patrons over its first one hundred years.



Carol Wagner and Ann Newbury add a decorative touch.

Library Benefit Concert to be Held September 25

The Callithumpian Consort will perform a concert of twentieth and twenty-first century music for the benefit of the Library on Saturday, September 25, at a private residence in Woods Hole. The group specializes in the performance of contemporary music, and has performed at New England Conservatory of Music's Brown Hall, the Isabella Stewart Gardner museum, and many other venues in Boston and across the country. They have performed twice before in Woods Hole, and are excited to be returning to help celebrate the Library's Centennial with music from the last 100 years.

More details will be available as the date approaches. For a review of a recent performance by the group, see <http://classical-scene.com/2010/03/22/still-waiting-for-lefty-callithumpian-consort-at-avant-gardener/>. We hope you will join us for this unique opportunity to enjoy a special musical event.

Jennifer Gaines will speak at Annual Meeting



*"Horrors! A book has been misfiled!"
Jennifer Gaines*

the community that it serves. And there is no one better positioned to take on the subject than Jennifer Gaines, Director of the Woods Hole Historical Collection and Museum and a librarian at the Woods Hole Public Library.

An energetic and moving target, Jennifer attends to her various duties while being interviewed on the subject, ultimately offering up a tantalizing peek at topics likely to be covered in her talk. Depending on the photographs that Jennifer locates pertaining to the period "circa 1910," she is likely to conduct an imaginary tour down Main Street, as Water Street was called in that era. Gone were the days of enterprises related to whaling, to the building and fitting out of big whaling ships. Gone was the Pacific Guano Factory. Tourism was in its infancy, and ferries and trains were in their heyday. Woods Hole was also well on

its way to becoming a center for science, the Fish Commission and Marine Biological Laboratory already established.

Wandering down Main Street in 1910, one might be fortunate to encounter some very interesting and influential individuals. Frances Crane Lillie, grandmother of current Library Trustee Catherine Cramer, had succeeded in landing her heart's desire, Frank R. Lillie, her professor in the MBL Embryology course, and in 1910 director of MBL. Together they greatly influenced the advancement of science in Woods Hole, as founders of WHOI, of which Frank Lillie was the first president. A political activist and philanthropist, Frances left her mark all around the village. Among other things, we can thank her for the Mary Garden and the Bell Tower.

Reverend George Fisher oversaw his flock at the Church of the Messiah, and Josephine Fish and Prince Crowell were librarians of the Woods Hole Social Library. Josephine was also one of the original signatories of the Incorporation Statement of the Woods Hole Public Library, which took place on August 1, 1910.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist—or marine biologist or oceanographer—to realize that the Library's Annual Meeting speaker for its Centennial Celebration Year should be conversant regarding the historical context of the Library and

Jennifer is confident that she has plenty of material available to her in the Archive, an Archive recently very favorably assessed by an archival expert on behalf of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, who deemed "the staff of WHHCM conscientious stewards of the collections under their care." Jennifer will bring her special touch to her talk this summer, a touch that is gentle with her deep affection for the topic and firm with her knowledge, interest, and infectious enthusiasm.

The talk is preceded by a short business meeting, and a reception will follow.



Josephine Fish

*Woods Hole Historical Museum's
AUCTION
Saturday July 17, 2010*

*Antiques, Collectibles, Maritime Items
Viewing and Registration 9-11 AM
Bidding starts at 11 AM
Come one! Come all! Lots of fun!!*