

The Book Nook

by *Kate Oland*

Every once in a while someone will say to me, “I don’t use the library, I’m not much of a reader.” I hear it often enough that I wanted to spend some time talking about “who and what” the library is actually for.

Libraries (aside from those few that have gone exclusively digital) are full of books, and books are meant to be read, so it’s logical for people to assume that libraries are for readers. Reading, learning, and literacy are indeed at the core of what libraries do. But libraries are absolutely not for the sole use of avid readers. Public libraries are for everyone, whether they read often, occasionally, or not at all.

A quick scan inside Baddeck Library on any given day will give you an idea of who uses the library, and why. Alongside the patrons looking for a good summer read or a book on deck building, you’ll find people browsing the DVD collection, checking their email, playing a board game, or relaxing with friends. You’ll find parents with toddlers who’ve come to the library to play with puzzles and toys or snuggle together with a picture book.

You’ll see people drawing on the chalk board, expressing themselves on the word wall, and knitting. You’ll notice tutoring sessions, study groups, and kids hanging out together. You’ll see people gathered to listen to a guest speaker, children attending a story time program, people learning computer skills, and presenters on any number of topics for people of all ages.

On any given day, our staff sees newborns, moms and dads, seniors, elementary students, teenagers, tourists -

men and women of all ages. They’re looking for information about their family trees, finding a good play to perform with a community group, locating wildlife photos for painting projects, borrowing videos about dry walling, asking for directions and information about the community, studying for their GED, and hatching business plans.

And yes, many of the people we see find what they’re looking for in books. But the library is really the original “full meal deal” - a place to explore, ask questions, find answers, relax, reflect, and grow using all the tools at our disposal. Are you a visual learner who gets more from a DVD than from the printed page? The library is for you. Are you someone who learns best by listening to a presentation or doing something hands-on? The library is for you. Do you want to become a better reader or get back into reading? The library is for you, too.

When you walk through the library’s doors, you are walking into a space that is for you - literally, because the library is publically funded, but philosophically as well. Whoever you are, whatever your interest, you should find yourself reflected in your library. You don’t have to be “a big reader” to walk through the door and find yourself at home.

Don’t forget, you can check out the Cape Breton Regional Library on Facebook, or on our web site at www.cbri.ca.

Kate Oland, Baddeck Branch/Victoria County Bookmobile - 295-2055
Leona Stockley, Victoria North Regional Branch (Ingonish) - 285-2544

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Victoria Standard is published once every two weeks. Community events for the next issue are due September 14, 2011.

Tuesday, September 6th:
A.A. Meeting at 8 pm in Baddeck Rooms, Bay Road. For info - Bev. 929-2426.

Thursday, September 8th:
Women’s A.A. Meeting at 8 pm at Baddeck Rooms. Discussion. Bev. B. 929-2426

Friday, September 9th:
A.A. Meeting at 8 pm at Baddeck Rooms. Discussion. Bev. B. 929-2426, Stewart E. 295-1583.

Saturday, September 10th:
The 81st annual Victoria County Community Fair at Baddeck Valley Community Hall. The hall will be open Friday, September 9th, 6-9 pm to receive exhibits, and all exhibits must be in place

by 9 pm. For more information, call Wendell at 295-2494. Everyone is welcome to enter an exhibit and attend the fair!

Sunday, September 11th:
A.A. Meeting - Baddeck Serenity at 8 pm. OP/S/D at Knox Presbyterian Hall. Call Sonny at 295-3172.

Ninth annual Old School House Festival at South Haven Community Hall with a Ceilidh at 7:30 pm featuring local Cape Breton performers. Adults, \$10, children under 12, \$5.

Wednesday, September 14th:
North River Riverside Cemetery meeting to be held at St. Andrew’s Church Memorial Hall at 7 pm. Everyone welcome!

Friday, September 16th:
Middle River Alderwood Auxiliary holding its annual Rock-A-Thon from 4 to 9 pm with entertainment from 7 to 8:30 pm. Door prizes and a cup of tea await - come and enjoy!



Silver Dart Centennial Association

Annual General Meeting

Alexander Graham Bell Museum Theatre
Sunday, September 11th, 2011 • 7:00 pm

Everyone interested is welcome to attend!

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The Restaurant at the Chanterelle Country Inn

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Reservations required with credit card - Call 929-2263



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Women in Business Luncheon

Date : Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Location : Glenghorm Beach Resort, Ingonish

Time : 12 noon

The speaker for the luncheon is Nona MacDermid, Economic Sustainability Officer for Victoria County.

Cost : \$15 all inclusive

Reservations are required by 4 pm on Monday, September 12 and can be made by contacting Sonya Mroz at 563-1271 or sonya_mroz@cbu.ca



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Baddeck, Nova Scotia
October 4th to 22nd, 2011