



Wiscasset Public Library

# Newsletter

April 2021

## Director's Note

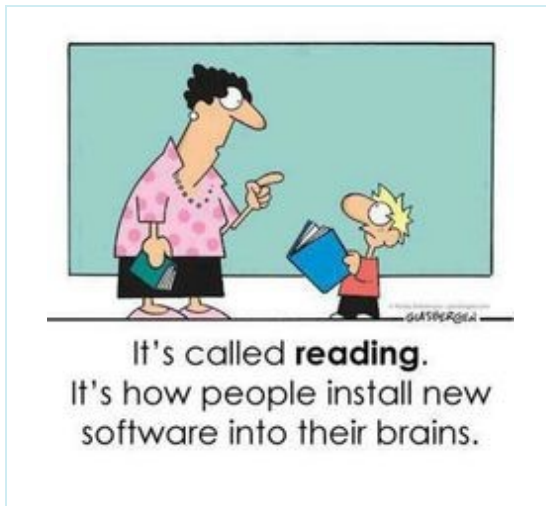
No fooling... It's April! The days get longer, the sun gets stronger and we spend more time in the beautiful Maine air. The simple joy of watching the trees bud, the flowers bloom, and the world getting greener is completely free to everyone. The renewal of Spring is the perfect time to look around and appreciate all that we have. Step outside and spend a few moments in gratitude. This is the time to plant both gardens and ideas. Take full advantage of all this season has to offer.

The library can help you with your plans. Come in and check out our books on gardening. Plot your space and plant for a delicious Summer and Fall. Ready to hit the road? Look into our books on hiking, fishing and kayaking in Maine. Read about and plan a trip to Acadia National Park, one of the most popular national parks in the country. Maine has forests, fields, streams, brooks, rivers, ocean, mountains, beaches and more. The northern part of the state is as different from the south as its towns are from its cities. There is a wealth of experiences waiting for you in this beautiful state. We are here to help you find the information you need to make your exploration fun!

Pam Dunning, Director

## Library Humor...

Why are libraries the tallest buildings in the world? Because they have so many stories!



# COVID-19 Safety Precautions

We are continually monitoring the COVID-19 news. Our top priority at this time is to provide library services to the public in the safest manner. Our current policies are:

- 10 patrons allowed in building at a time
- A **face mask** is required to be worn in the building (bring your own). A face shield is not an approved mask alternative at this time.
- Curbside delivery is available for those who can't wear a face mask
- Use hand sanitizer immediately upon entering the building, even if you are wearing gloves
- Patrons must be symptom free of any illness for the last two weeks
- 30-minute time limit
- Place items that you touched and aren't checking out on one of the tables, so they can be added to the quarantine cart. **Do not return items to shelves.**
- No public bathrooms
- No meetings
- Used Book Room sales are discontinued until further notice
- Patrons who are non-compliant will be asked to leave the building

The Library is committed to keeping everyone healthy and to maintaining a safe environment that will allow us to stay open. **We can do this together!**

## Upcoming Events

### Friends of Wiscasset Public Library Meeting



The Friends of WPL will hold their May meeting via Zoom on **Monday, May 10, at 10:00 am**. The main topic for discussion will be the September Bands for Books fundraiser. We will send out additional details to members closer to the meeting date. We look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting. For more information or to join the Friends, email [Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com](mailto:Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com).

Stephanie Hergenroeder and Lili Pugh, Co-Presidents

### A Note from the Friends Treasurer

I want to take this opportunity to thank those who have sent in their 2021 dues. If you have not already done so, please send your check payable to *Friends of Wiscasset Public Library* to: Friends of Wiscasset Public Library, 21 High St., Wiscasset, ME 04578. Annual dues are \$10. Donations are appreciated as we were unable to fundraise during 2020. All money raised by the Friends is used to fund library materials and programs. Thank you for your support!

**Book Group (via Zoom):  
Thursday, Apr. 15 at 10:15 am**



Thank you to the March Book Group attendees for sharing some wonderful book suggestions. We had a small group, but the recommendations all sounded like "must read" books.

March recommendations

***My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry*** by Fredrik Backman

***The Lowering Days*** by Gregory Brown

***The Four Winds*** by Kristin Hannah

***Where the Lost Wander*** by Amy Harmon

***Revolver*** by Evan I. Schwartz

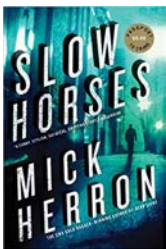
One of the March recommendations is a book (*Revolver*) from Concord Free Press. This small publisher gives away their books: "We publish free books that inspire generosity. All we ask is that you donate any amount to a charity or someone in need, and tell us about it. Then pass your book along so others can give. Our books have inspired \$3.6+ million in generosity." In that spirit, we plan to pass *Revolver* from member to member.

Looking ahead, it is time to think about our next group read. Traditionally, we alternate between fiction and non-fiction. We will all read and discuss the same nonfiction book at the June meeting. What nonfiction book(s) would you like to read? Please send your ideas to [Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com](mailto:Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com). We hope we can meet in person outside the Library to discuss this book. Fingers crossed!

Our next book group meeting will be on **Thursday, April 15 at 10:15 am** via Zoom for another book share. Share what you are currently reading or have recently read and why you would recommend it. Please email the Friends at the address above for instructions on how to Zoom if you haven't attended a meeting this way before. If you would like to be added to our group also email us at the above address.

See you next month,  
Stephanie

## **Recommended: The Slough House Series**



***Slow Horses*** by Mick Herron (Slough House #1)

Review by Richard Litz, President, WPL Trustees

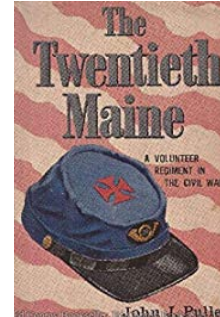
***Slow Horses*** by Mick Herron is a great read, probably right up there with John Le Carre (or John Lawton and Philip Kerr at their best). The Slow Horses consist of a group of spies that have been rusticated for bad behavior from head office MI-5. They hang out in a small decrepit office building, Slough House, in the borough of

Finsbury, under their boss Jackson Lamb, an overweight, uncouth Falstaffian character. I am hooked and immediately ordered other Slough House books. This entire series is now available at the Library.

## Collection Highlight: Maine in the Civil War

***The Twentieth Maine*** by John J. Pullen

"We went into the fight with 386, all told--358 guns. Every pioneer and musician who would carry a musket went into the ranks. Even the sick and footsore, who could not keep up in the march, came up as soon as they could find their regiments, and took their places in line of battle, while it was battle, indeed." --Col. Joshua Chamberlain

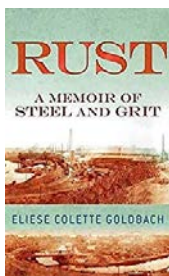


The fascinating story of Joshua Chamberlain and his volunteer regiment, the Twentieth Maine, is reprinted with a new foreword by Civil War historian and UCLA professor Joan Waugh. Pullen's classic and highly acclaimed book tells how Chamberlain and his men fought at Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville on their way to the pivotal battle of Gettysburg. There, on July 2, 1863, at Little Round Top, they heroically saved the left flank of the Union battle line. The Twentieth Maine's remarkable story ends with the surrender of Lee's troops at Appomattox.

Pullen's book on the Twentieth Maine is considered a classic. If you want to read more on the subject, Wiscasset Public Library has many books about Maine during the Civil War. These are a few of our Civil War titles:

***Stand Firm Ye Boys From Maine*** by Thomas Desjardin  
***The Rebel Yell and the Yankee Hurrah: The Civil War***  
***Journal of a Maine Volunteer*** by Private John Haley  
***Maine Roads To Gettysburg*** by Tom Huntington  
***Red Diamond Regiment*** by William Jordan  
***No Rich Man's Sons*** by James Mundy  
***Shower of Stars*** by John Pullen  
***Civil War Maine Hall of Fame: Political, Judicial and Military Leaders 1861-1865*** by Kenneth Thompson Jr.

## Large Print Book Review



***Rust: A Memoir of Steel and Grit***  
by Eliese Colette Goldbach

To ArcelorMittal Steel, Eliese is known as #6691: Utility Worker, but this was never her dream. Fresh out of college, eager to leave behind her conservative hometown and come to terms with her Christian roots, Eliese found herself applying for a job at the local steel mill. The mill is everything she was trying to escape,

but it's also her only shot at financial security in an economically devastated and forgotten part of America.

In *Rust*, Eliese brings the reader inside the belly of the mill and the middle American upbringing that brought her there in the first place. She takes a long intimate look at her Rust Belt childhood and struggles to reconcile her desire to leave without turning her back on the people she's come to love: the people she sees as the unsung backbones of our nation.

Faced with the financial promise of a steelworker's paycheck, and the very real danger of working in an environment that where a steel coil could crush you at any moment or a vat of molten iron could explode because of one drop of water, Eliese finds unexpected warmth and camaraderie among the gruff men she labors beside each day.

## The Children's Room

Happy Spring! Happy Easter! Happy Patriot's Day! Happy Earth Day! We are also celebrating National Poetry Month. What fun for a curious librarian!

Stop by for Take and Make crafts celebrating the Easter holiday and spring.



A *hand*-ful of lilies and a peek-a-boo chick



Spring has sprung! We have many great stories and works of nonfiction about the season, the cycle of life, birds, trees, and us - people! Try *Wake Up it's Spring* by Lisa Campbell Ernst or Kevin Henkes' *Little White Rabbit*. Read *The Acadia Files: Spring Science* by Katie Coppens or the *Penderwicks in Spring*. Ahh, so many books! Our craft is simple, pretty and fun—a green fan of multicolored tulips. Pick up a kit today.

On Monday, April 19, celebrate the day when the Minute Men challenged the English Army and our fight for freedom began. Read *Paul Revere's Ride* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow or *Concord Hymn* by Ralph Waldo Emerson then make a colonial lantern—"One if by land, and two if by sea."



Thursday, April 22 is Earth Day 2021. Make a craft showing that you *love* the Earth! Read *Who is Greta Thunberg?*, *Hoot* (or any book) by Carl Hiaasen, *Where Once there was a Wood* by Denise Fleming, *Animals on the Edge* by Sandy Pobst, or *Frog and Beaver* by James Simon. There are so many great books about our beautiful planet. Ask Ms. Laurie for suggestions.



Every April, on Poem in Your Pocket Day, people celebrate by selecting a poem, carrying it with them, and sharing it with others throughout the day. Ms. Laurie will have poems throughout the month to pick up and share on April 29.



Amanda Gorman  
National Youth  
Poet Laureate

## Greetings, Dear Parents!

Summer Reading plans are coalescing. I am also anticipating when I will see you again here in the library. For now, the STEM kits' popularity is growing, so we continue to build up this collection. Our Diverse Book grant was matched by an anonymous donor so our title selection continues to grow. I have been fortunate to be able to honor almost all requests for books—especially from young readers. Stop by to say hello, make a suggestion or add your two cents. It is your library after all! Ms. Laurie

## Children's Room Reminders

We would love to see you! Before you visit, please read the "COVID-19 Safety Precautions" above. Remember, Children's Room visitors must also:

- Enter the Children's room via the Used Book Room
- Limit capacity to one family at a time
- Children wait in designated area while books are retrieved from the shelves by parent/caregiver
- Face covering must be worn by all but the youngest patrons (bring your own please)

Thank you for helping to keep the Children's Room safe for all visitors.

## Used Book Room News

The UBR remains closed while the library uses this area to quarantine materials. We hope that restrictions are lifted soon. Until then, please do not deliver UBR donations to the library. We will let you know when we plan to reopen. Your donations will be gratefully accepted at that time. Until then, take care and stay safe.



Lynn Maloney, UBR Chair

## Online Resources

Anyone with an active library card can download ebooks and audio books at [CloudLibrary](#). There are books for all ages.



**digitalmainelibrary** [Digital Maine Library](#) is accessible to everyone in Maine, no library card required. You'll find articles and abstracts from magazines, newspapers, journals and reference materials. It also includes resources for children.

If you have young children, visit [StoryLine Online](#), an award-winning children's literacy website features dozens of Story Time videos. There are some great free children's podcasts that are short and sweet. Try [Little Stories for Tiny People](#) (young children) or [Stories Podcast](#) (older children).



### Free E-books and Audiobooks

Several online retailers offer some products for free. Search for "free":

- [Amazon Kindle store](#)
- [Barnes & Noble Nook store](#)
- [Google Play Books](#)
- [Audible.com](#)

You'll find thousands of older titles on these websites:

- [Project Gutenberg](#)
- [Open Library](#)
- [ManyBooks](#)
- [LibriVox](#) (audiobooks)

## Overdue Notices

If you receive an Overdue Notice after returning your items, please disregard the email. We continue to quarantine all items for 96 hours before checking them in. The automated notices go out while items are in quarantine. We do not charge late fees and we will process your returns as quickly as it is safe to do so. Our quarantine policy is based on guidance from Maine State Library and its purpose is to keep both you and the WPL staff safe. If you still have questions, feel free to call us.

## Library Information

### Hours

Tue. 10:00am-5:00pm  
Wed. 10:00am-7:00pm  
Thu. 10:00am-5:00pm  
Fri. 10:00am-5:00pm  
Sat. 10:00am-2:00pm  
Closed Sunday and Monday

### Staff

Pamela Dunning, Director  
David Cherry, Assistant Librarian  
Karen Delano, Assistant Librarian  
Laurie Ridgway, Children's Librarian  
Stephan Smith, Assistant Librarian

Visit our website

Connect with WPL  
(207) 882-7161



[wpl@wiscasset.lib.me.us](mailto:wpl@wiscasset.lib.me.us)

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