

# VALATIE FREE LIBRARY



## Newsletter

## October, 2009

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### About Us

#### Staff:

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#### Board of Trustees:

President, Erica Balon

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### Jean's Place

Thank you to all who gave us feedback about our first e-newsletter. We appreciate your taking the time to do so, and we appreciate your comments. Enjoy the current issue.

This month's big news is that we have two additional laptop computers in the library, bringing our total of patron computers to one desktop model and four laptops. Thanks to a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, you will now almost always find a computer free for your use. Additionally, Elizabeth has started giving computer instruction to people who request this. We offer individual or group instruction.

If you are interested in improving your computer skills or just learning how to operate the computer, please call the library to schedule training.

And, as always, remember to check our web page to access information from newspapers and magazines (Home Access), get homework help (Lifelines) and/or practice a second language (Mango). The web site's address is [valatielibrary.org](http://valatielibrary.org).

### Welcome to VFL's New Board Member

We would like to welcome Maryann Weber to the VFL Board of Trustees. Maryann, a Valatie resident, has served on the board in the past and is looking forward to a new term of service. She is a published author of two mysteries, *Summerkill* and *Falling Backward*, both set in our local Columbia County. Currently she is in the finishing stages of publication of her newest mystery novel, *The Emerald Men*, scheduled for release before the end of 2009. Her books are available in local bookstores and here at the library. We highly recommend her first two novels and are looking forward to reading her new release. Thank you, Maryann, for volunteering your time and talent to the library.

## Recently Added

### Fiction:

*U is for Undertow*  
By Sue Grafton

*The Scarpeta Factor*  
By Patricia Cornwell

*Nine Dragons*  
By Michael Connelly

*Southern Lights*  
By Danielle Steele

*I, Alex Cross*  
By James Patterson

*Evidence: an Alex Delaware Novel*  
By Jonathan Kellerman

*The Professional*  
By Robert Parker

### Nonfiction:

*True Compass*  
By Ted Kennedy

*Last Lion: The Fall and Rise of Ted Kennedy*  
By Peter S. Canellos

### DVDS:

*The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*

*Coraline*

*Knowing*

**Books for Preschool  
and Primary School Children:**

*Yum, Yum What Fun*  
By Mara Bergman  
Illustrated by Nick Maland

Katie, James and their little dog Harry prepare snacks for some unusual guests.

*One Brown Bunny*  
By Marion Dane Dauer  
Illustrated by Ivan Bates

Bunny looks for a friend in this counting book.

## Story Hour

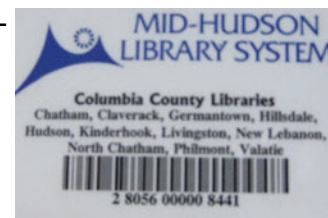
There are still openings in our Story Hour Program on Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. (when the Ichabod Crane Schools are in session) for children, ages 3 and 4.

Join us for stories, crafts, activities and snacks. Younger siblings also welcome. For more information, call the library.

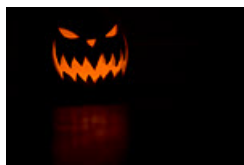
## Get Library Cards at ICC Primary School

On Thursday, October 1st, representatives from the Valatie, Kinderhook and North Chatham Libraries will again be at the Ichabod Crane Primary School during Parents Night.

Parents are invited to sign up and get library cards for their children during the open house. Cards may be used in all three libraries as well as in the entire Mid-Hudson Library System. If you do not know your home library district, we will determine that. Cards will be immediately available.



## Coming Events



**Friday, October 23rd, 6:30 - 8 P.M. at the Library: Halloween Party for kids in grades 6 through 8.** Join us for not-too-scary stories, contests, board games and pizza. It is not necessary to wear a costume, but you may, if you wish. Please call the library by Wednesday, October 21st to register for the party. Registration is required.

**Sunday, November 15th at 3:30 at the Dorothy Ostrowski Senior Center: Andrew Smith will speak about the legendary critters of the Hudson Valley.** Learn about the Jersey Devil and others. More information will be posted in our November e-newsletter about this presentation co-hosted by the Valatie and Kinderhook Libraries.

*The richest person in the world - in fact all the riches in the world - couldn't provide you with anything like the endless, incredible loot available at your local library.*

~ Malcolm Forbes

## Recently Added (cont.)

### **Books for Preschool and Primary School Children:**

#### ***Mrs. McGee's Coconut***

By Allia Zobel Nolan  
Illustrated by Peter Cottrill

Discover the adventures of the coconut that Mrs. McGee bought but couldn't open.

#### ***LLama, Llama Misses Momma***

By Anna Dewdney

Another llama, llama book, this story is great for the beginning of the school year! Llama adjusts to his first day of preschool and realizes that momma will come back for him.

#### ***We Are Extremely Very Good Recyclers***

Characters Created by Lauren Child

Lola and her friends learn to recycle and win a new tree for their school.

## Profile: Gretchen Dawes

A very familiar face at the VFL Board meetings is that of vice-president, Gretchen Dawes. A resident of Valatie since 1962, Gretchen has been frequenting the Valatie Library since she was a college student. She credits Mrs. Atkinson, former VFL librarian, with helping her to do research and fostering her interest in the library. Gretchen joined the Board eight years ago and has also served as secretary and president.

In addition to her devotion to the library and her family, Gretchen has been very active in the Valatie community. She has been co-ordinator of the Town of Kinderhook Recreation Program, program director of OK Kids and attendance clerk at Ichabod Crane Middle School. As a girl scout leader here for over 3 decades, she has fostered a sense of camaraderie and cooperation among countless girls. Under her direction, they have developed outdoor skills in their camping and nature study field trips. They have wonderful memories of their girl scout events and their energetic leader.

As a VFL board member, Gretchen is tireless in organizing community events at the library. A great source of ideas, she helps to make our adult and children's programs successful. Gretchen is a vital asset to the Board. We appreciate all she does for the library and look forward to working with her for many years.

## Valatie Library Book Club

The next meeting of the Valatie Library Book Club will be on Wednesday, October 28th at 7 P.M. night birds in the library. We will be discussing Thomas Maltman's Night Birds, a novel about three generations of German immigrants to the Midwest. The story of the three generations is seen through the eyes of young Asa Senger as he discovers his family's past connection to the issue of slavery and the struggle between the Europeans and the Dakotas in Minnesota in the 1860s and 1870s. Newcomers are always welcome to the book club. Call the library for more information

## C-GCC Coming to Valatie Free Library

Josh Horn, assistant director of admissions at Columbia-Greene Community College, will visit the Valatie Free Library on Wed., Oct. 21, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Mr. Horn will be available to answer questions about both the college's credit and noncredit programs and classes. He will have handouts covering the school's 47 dynamic academic programs as well as literature on other college classes and events.

C-GCC features both university-and career-track programs in fine arts, teacher education, business, criminal justice, math-science, automotive technology, environmental studies, physical education, nursing and massage therapy, among others. The institution also offers a wide variety of noncredit classes including such subject areas as arts and crafts, computer software, finance, health and personal development, music and dance, and physical fitness.

## C-GCC (cont.)

C-GCC specializes in returning adult students. So, whether you're a high school senior, a single mom or an empty nester, Mr. Horn can discuss study opportunities that fit your life plans.

(News Release from the Office of Allen Kovler)

If you are unable to meet with Mr Horn at the library, you may obtain this information and discover the possibilities which C-GCC may have for you by contacting:

Allen Kovler  
Director of Public Relations  
Columbia-Greene Community College  
4400 Route 23  
Hudson, NY 12534  
Telephone: (518) 822-2027

Wishing you a . . .



. . . from the Staff  
and Trustees of  
the Valatie Free Library.

## Library Information

### Hours:

Monday: 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Tuesday and Wednesday: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Thursday: 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### Contact Information:

Phone: 518-758-9321  
Email: [valatielibrary@fairpoint.net](mailto:valatielibrary@fairpoint.net)  
WWW: [valatielibrary.org](http://valatielibrary.org)  
Address: 3203 Church Street  
PO Box 336  
Valatie, New York 12184

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting:  
Third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.