



# NOTEWORTHY

Newsletter of the Central Maine Library District

Spring 2007

## ***“Baxter” the Library Cat*** *Mascot name selected from 1,200 submissions*

AUGUSTA – Baxter is on the prowl. The very large Maine Coon Cat, Baxter, is the mascot for Maine libraries, and is sporting a new name following a six-week statewide contest.

More than twelve hundred suggestions, from Fort Kent to Kennebunk, and from Machias to Rangeley, flooded into the Maine State Library before the March 1 deadline.

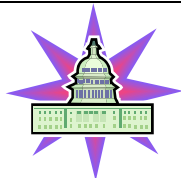
A dozen individuals submitted the name *Baxter*. Their inspirations varied, but the most popular connection was with Baxter State Park and Governor Percival Baxter. One person described the mascot and the name as a “...very resilient type of feline – rough & tough, like Maine, the mountains, and Baxter State Park.”

The winner, 12-year-old Ben Allen of Pittsfield, was selected March 15 by a random drawing in Augusta. The contenders were the dozen contestants who submitted the name *Baxter*.

Senate President Beth Edmonds drew the winner. Ben’s library, Pittsfield Public, hosted the first official “Baxter” mascot visit at a special program April 19.

The Baxter costume is now available for libraries to schedule for local events. Details are available at: <http://www.maine.gov/msl/lib/pr/mascot/>

## **Library Legislation**



Updated information about legislation affecting libraries can be found at the Maine State Library’s website: <http://www.maine.gov/msl/lib/legislation.htm>

## **Maine Regional Library System Membership Criteria**

Maine Regional Library System members will vote on the following criteria at spring council meetings. The criteria were endorsed by the Maine Library Commission and the CMLD Executive Board in 2006. Current members are grandfathered until 2010.

*The participating library shall:*

- *be part of an organization or institution that has a legal basis for operation and provides informational resources;*
- *have a written mission statement and service objectives;*
- *have an established funding base;*
- *be authorized to participate by its appropriate administrative authority;*
- *have established and posted hours of service;*
- *have a fixed location;*
- *have a designated staff person or volunteer with library services training who is responsible for the library;*
- *have an organized collection of information and material accessible for use by its designated clientele and/or the public;*
- *agree to the terms and conditions of the Maine Regional Library System membership agreement as established by the Maine Library Commission. This agreement shall include certification by each member library that it meets the minimum eligibility requirements for participation, agrees to participate in interlibrary loan activities within the state in accordance with the National Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States and agrees to provide data on the use of regional and statewide library materials and services.*

## **Karl Beiser to Retire**

Karl Beiser, Executive Director of Maine InfoNet, will be honored at the May 17, 2007 CMLD Spring Meeting at Auburn Public Library prior to his retirement on May 31<sup>st</sup>. This is an opportunity for CMLD librarians to say thank you and goodbye to a wonderful friend of Maine libraries. Karl has been at the forefront of Maine library automation projects for many years. A statewide celebration in Karl’s honor will be held in Bangor May 30. If you are interested in attending, contact Jenny at the NMLD office at Bangor Public Library at 207-947-8336, ext 116.

## Spring Council Meeting

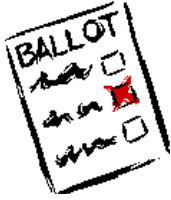
©

*"So, You Think You Know Copyright?"*

Thursday, May 17

Auburn Public Library

*Flyers were mailed mid-April*



In addition to the program about copyright, election of Executive Board members will take place at the CMLD Spring Council business meeting. Two vacancies will occur because of term limits: Vaughan Gagne (former director of Wilton Public Library) and Rick Speer (Lewiston Public Library Director). A third public library representative position will be vacated by Ann Siekman who has chosen not to run for re-election.

The nominating committee will submit the following SLATE, all public library reps, to be voted on May 17 during the CMLD business meeting:

- Melanie Taylor Coombs, Director of Bailey Public Library (Winthrop)
- David Olson, Director of Wilton Free Public Library
- Susan Preece, Director of Topsham Public Library

Two board members whose first terms will expire in 2007 are eligible to run for a second term and will be included on the slate for re-election to the board. They are: Matt Pollack (Topsham), Trustee Rep; and Kathy Brunjes (Central Maine Medical Center), Special Libraries Representative.

## Library Makeovers Offered To Small Public Libraries

CMLD is collaborating with SMLD to offer Library Makeovers to rural public libraries serving populations under 7,500. The application deadline was April 20; winners will be notified in early May; and the Makeovers will take place during the spring and summer.

A Library Makeover includes one day of hands-on assistance by a Makeover Team, as well as a \$150 stipend to help purchase supplies. A Makeover may consist of changes to the library interior as well as suggestions to make the space more attractive and functional. Be prepared for change! Possibilities include paint choices, furniture selection, re-arrangement of furnishings and equipment, floor coverings, and signage.

The Makeover Team will include district librarians and an interior designer from the New Hampshire based firm of Tucker Library Interiors. Funds are contributed by Friends of Maine Libraries and CMLD. A maximum of four libraries will be selected – two from each district. Each makeover will be completed in one day. The winning libraries will be chosen based on project feasibility and need as demonstrated by the written application and accompanying photos.

## Calendar

Selected library events of interest to CMLD librarians are listed below. For updates, more detail, and a more comprehensive statewide list, visit the Maine State Library calendar at:

[www.maine.gov/msl/libs/calendar/index.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/msl/libs/calendar/index.shtml)

- May 9 **Maine Library Commission**
- May 10 **Reference Librarians' Interest Group, MSL**
- May 17 **Spring Council Meeting; Copyright, Auburn P.L.**
- June 4 **SPARK, Bath 1:30-3:30**
- June 5 **Farmington Area Librarians, 1:30-3:30**
- June 11 **Orientation new public library directors, 9:45-3:30, Maine State Library**
- June 12 **Public Library Directors' Institute, 9:00-3:00, Augusta Civic Center**
- June 19 **CMLD Exec Board Annual Meeting**
- June 23 **Maine Festival of the Book, Portland**
- Oct 24 **Fall Council Meeting, Augusta Civic Center**
- Nov 4-6 **Maine Libraries Conference, Augusta**

## NMLD Consultant Named

Valerie Osborne of Old Town has been named District Consultant for the Northeastern Maine Library District, Effective in May 2007. Valerie was director of the Old Town Public Library for 24 years after 5 years as a classroom teacher in East Corinth and Lincoln, Maine. She received an M.Ed in public management from the University of Maine. Valerie was the recipient of numerous awards including the 2003 Maine Library Association's Librarian of the Year and was Chair of the Maine Library Commission from 1995-1997.



## Maine State Library Partners with WebJunction

Beginning in June 2007 Maine library staff will have free access to many online courses at [www.webjunction.org](http://www.webjunction.org). Self-paced courses on library management, basic computing, business skills, technology trouble-shooting, web development, and other topics will enable Maine's geographically scattered libraries to "send" their staff to school. Watch for further updates later in May. For more information, contact Janet McKenney at the Maine State Library: [janet.mckenney@maine.gov](mailto:janet.mckenney@maine.gov)

## Statewide Delivery Service



The month of May is an open enrollment period for joining or adding stops to your delivery service. Dean Corner, Maine State Library, reports that the State Library and Maine InfoNet negotiated a contract with the delivery provider Velocity Express in 2006 that simplifies delivery and billing. Most libraries now pay a flat fee of \$11.50 per stop; tote charges were eliminated. However, the volume of materials being sent has skyrocketed. Public libraries alone received and sent about 400,000 items in 2006. This has complicated delivery efforts, meaning at times drivers do not have room for all the totes, primarily for libraries with only 1 or 2 delivery days per week. Libraries in this category that receive 4 totes per delivery should consider adding an additional stop per week, although budgeting an extra \$598 per year may be difficult.

## Free LJXpress

Library Journal offers a free online subscription to its weekly e-alert. LJXpress provides an overview of each Library Journal print issue, with highlights of the top News, InfoTech, and Book News stories, articles, editorials, and columns in short, concise summaries. Click-throughs take you to the full text, along with a weekly book, audio, or video review, a collection development list, and a poll. LJXpress is delivered to your email inbox and takes only a few minutes to read. You don't have to be an LJ subscriber to get free access. Sign up at [www.libraryjournal.com/newsletters](http://www.libraryjournal.com/newsletters)

## Summer Reading Celebration

**Please Note:** There will be no district-wide Summer Reading Celebration in 2007. For the past three years CMLD has worked with the Boothbay Railway Village to offer a highly successful celebration for our summer readers. Although this event has been very well-received, the committee is aware that the location poses a hardship for those in the western and northern areas of the 7-county district. We have struggled to find a more centrally located venue; if you have an idea for an alternative site for 2008, or if you would like to join the committee, please contact the CMLD office: 1-800-322-8899.

## [www.maine.gov/libraries/](http://www.maine.gov/libraries/)

To publicize your library events and services to the general public, remember to update your information at [www.maine.gov/libraries/](http://www.maine.gov/libraries/) or [www.mainelibraries.com](http://www.mainelibraries.com). Click on "library login" and follow the directions. If you need assistance, contact either the web coordinator or your district consultant: [bonnie.dwyer@maine.gov](mailto:bonnie.dwyer@maine.gov)



## Library Spotlight

A new statewide program features a different library each month on the "Spotlight" section of the Maine

Libraries website [www.maine.gov/libraries/](http://www.maine.gov/libraries/). The first library spotlight in March 2007 was the **Maine State Library**. The April spotlight was the newly expanded **Auburn Public Library**, followed by **Andover College** for May. Libraries may be selected for one or more of the following: special collection or service; new or renovated building; state, regional or national award recipient; and special anniversary or event. Libraries will be selected by the regional library system public relations committees.

### ALERT!

**The CMLD Executive Board has decided to suspend mass mailings of the print version of this newsletter. NOTEWORTHY is usually published twice a year, but sometimes quarterly, and is mailed to all CMLD public, school, special, and academic libraries. Instead, the newsletter will be published on the CMLD website at [www.maine.gov/msl/cmdl/newsletters/](http://www.maine.gov/msl/cmdl/newsletters/)**



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If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by mail, you must opt in by submitting the following form to:

**CMLD Noteworthy  
Attn: Cheryl Ramsay  
Maine State Library  
64 SHS  
Augusta, ME 04333.**

Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Library \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Central Maine Library District Association  
c/o Maine State Library  
64 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

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*Central Maine Library District*

# NOTEWORTHY

*Noteworthy is published by the Central Maine Library District and is mailed free to CMLD member libraries. The Central Maine Library District (CMLD) is one of three districts in the Maine Regional Library System, created by the State Legislature in 1973. The System was formed to promote and improve access to library services for all Maine residents. It operates under the auspices of the Maine State Library. Membership in the Central Maine Library District is voluntary and free to all types of libraries located in its 7-county territory (Androscoggin, Franklin, Lincoln, Kennebec, Oxford, Sagadahoc, and Somerset).*

The CMLD office is located at the Maine State Library, 64 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. 207-287-5620 or 1-800-322-8899  
District Consultant: Bonnie Dwyer. Email: [bonnie.dwyer@maine.gov](mailto:bonnie.dwyer@maine.gov)

**CMLD Board Voting Members:** Pam Bonney, Waterville Jr. High School; Kathy Brunjes, Central Maine Medical Center Library; Vaughan Gagne, Mantor Library, UMF; Shelly Davis, Mantor Library, UMF; Jo Hipsher, Brunswick High School Library; Betty Hughes, At-Large; Matt Pollack, Trustee, Topsham Public Library; Ann Siekman, Norway Memorial Library; Rick Speer, Lewiston Public Library. **Non-voting (Ex-Officio):** Karl Aromaa, Rumford Public Library, Maine Library Commission; Bonnie Dwyer, CMLD Consultant; Linda Lord, Deputy State Librarian, Maine State Library.