



# Check It Out

The monthly newsletter of the Des Plaines Valley Public Library District

**Crest Hill Library** 1298 Theodore Street Crest Hill, IL 60403 815-725-0234  
**Lockport Library** 121 East 8th Street Lockport, IL 60441 815-838-0755  
<http://www.dpvlib.org>

## JULY 2007

### Library Hours

#### Closed July 4th

Mon-Thu: 9am—9pm

Fri & Sat: 9am—5pm

Sun: 1—5pm

### Board Meeting

*At Lockport:*

Community Room

Tuesday, July 17

@ 7:00 p.m.

### Book Discussion Groups

#### Lockport

2nd Tues. @ 10:30 a.m.

2nd Thurs. @ 6:30 p.m.

#### Crest Hill

3rd Tues. @ 11 a.m.

See p. 3 for details.

## It's not too late to sign up for our Summer Reading Programs!

The children's program is for ages 3 to 13.

The adult program is for ages 14 and up.

*See page 4 for details.*

We have great prizes to keep you reading all summer!

## Reliable Answers Anytime

Have you ever found yourself in need of quick information from the Internet but get lost among thousands of possibilities? Did you know that sometimes the information you need is only available in a library resource? Through a service called **Ask?Away**, Illinois librarians are online to help! The librarians at Des Plaines Valley are in partnership with librarians around the state and the world so that you can have your question answered online and in real-time 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To find your way to Ask?Away just look for this link on our library web site @ <http://www.dpvlib.org>



## Learn to Knit Classes Coming Soon...

The library district will offer beginning knitting classes in August and September. Mark your calendars now for the two-night classes presented by expert teachers from "Have Yarn Will Travel." The classes are scheduled for Thursdays, August 23 and 30 in Lockport and on Thursdays, September 13 and 20, in Crest Hill — from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Registration begins July 23 for the Lockport classes and on August 13 for the Crest Hill classes. The class will be limited to the first 15 persons who register. There is no charge, and all supplies (including a set of needles) are provided. For adults, ages 14 and up.

## Lockport Area Genealogical and Historical Society *German Genealogy in Lockport*

On Saturday, July 28, 2007 the Lockport Area Genealogical and Historical Society will hold its monthly membership meeting at the Lockport Public Library, 121 East 8<sup>th</sup> St., Lockport, IL. The meeting will begin at 9:15 a.m. in the Community Room. Our guest speaker will be Geri Loose who will present a program featuring German history and genealogy in the Lockport area. The program is free and the public is invited. Contact Gary Ward (815) 838-2327 for additional information.

## July's Computer Class: Basic Internet

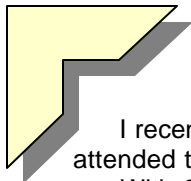
Last month's beginners class on how to use a computer was well received. This month, we are following up with an introductory class on using the Internet. The class will give a brief history and explanation of the Internet and will teach the parts of the browser window, ways to find pages on the Web, how to improve searching in a search engine, and how to avoid spyware, viruses, and *phishing*.

Basic knowledge of how to use a computer is required. In Lockport, the class will be held on Tuesday, July 3, from 7 to 8:00 p.m. In Crest Hill, the class will be held on Tuesday, July 31, from 10 to 11 a.m. Registration for these classes is being taken at the reference desk of the respective libraries. The classes are being offered free to the public. Class size is limited to 10 per session.

In August, we will again offer the Beginners Class on using a computer. If you have any questions, please contact Manager of Adult Services Shannon Pohrte at 815-838-0755.

## New Computers for Kids at Crest Hill

Six brand new computers with headphones have arrived at the Crest Hill children's room! These computers are loaded with games — both educational and fun — for children in pre-school through grade 5. Stop by soon!



## The Director's Corner

by Scott Pointon

I recently returned from a trip to Washington D.C. where I attended the American Library Association annual conference. With **28,635** librarians, vendors, and supporters in attendance, this was the largest A.L.A. conference of all time! For those of you unaware, this conference serves as a national forum for discussions on key library issues such as funding, advocacy, technology, and literacy (just to name a few).

I can say from this experience that libraries have never faced greater challenges in fulfilling their mission. The general theme of this conference was **how to do more with less**. Stories of unfunded or under-funded libraries abound, and the growing notion that libraries are "extra" or "unnecessary" is most disturbing. Therefore, I come home to our library district with a renewed sense of urgency to demonstrate the value of our libraries. We will be burning the candle at both ends over the next couple of years to increase our programs and services while at the same time completing our plans for future growth and expansion. Remember, the time is now for all of you who support the library to be strong advocates in our communities!

Quote of the month: "*I cannot live without books.*" - Thomas Jefferson

## Talk About Books!

July always brings back childhood memories of picnics with my mother and younger sister. We lived then, as I still live now, across from a sprawling farm that seemed made for wandering and finding the perfect picnic spot.

My mother was nothing if not spontaneous and often a picnic was called for if the sky was simply the right color, the breeze was whipping the clouds along and nothing would do except to leave our everyday chores till later and enjoy that day together.

I'm afraid our picnic fare was not very imaginative. We had the obligatory peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, apples and oranges, cookies and Kool-Aid in thermoses most recently used at school, which smelled vaguely of either milk or vegetable soup. Sometimes there would be Twinkies.

Though today we can define a picnic as a pleasurable meal eaten outdoors, the word used to mean a "potluck" – an entertainment at which each person contributed some dish to a common table for all to share. The first usage of the word can be traced to 16<sup>th</sup> century French—the verb *pique* which means 'pick' or 'peck' with the rhyming *nique* meaning 'thing of little importance'. How about having a "thing of little importance" yourself soon? Explore the art of the picnic with your children and share these juvenile books— colorful, funny and meant to be read with a Twinkie in hand.

- ***The Bunnies' Picnic*** by Lezlie Evans—at Crest Hill & Lockport Libraries—**E EVA**
- ***Picnic Day*** by Wendy Wax—at Lockport Library— **E WAX**
- ***Ants At The Picnic: counting by tens*** by Michael Dahl—at Lockport Library— **E 513.211 DAH**
- ***We're Going On A Picnic!*** By Pat Hutchins—at Lockport Library—**E HUT**
- ***Dora's Picnic*** by Christine Ricci—at Crest Hill Library—**E RIC**

B. Krakovec

## Up and Coming Book Discussions...

Our book discussion groups meet monthly at the Lockport and Crest Hill libraries. New members are always welcome. Books are available for pick-up one month before the discussion dates from the respective libraries. For more information, please call Manager of Adult Services Shannon Pohrte @ 815-838-0755.

### Lockport Mornings, 10:30am, 2nd Tuesdays

- July 10: *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*, by James McBride.
- August 14: *The Serpent's Shadow: Elemental Masters #1*, by Mercedes Lackey...Set in 1909 London, Maya Witherspoon practices medicine, as well as magic, in this fantasy period piece.

### Ravenous Readers, 6:30pm, 2nd Thurs.

#### @ Lockport

- July 12: *The Narrows*, by Michael Connelly.
- August 9: *The Looming Tower: Al Qaeda and the Road to 9/11*, by Lawrence Wright...A well-researched history of terrorism and the individuals who played key roles in the events that led to 9/11.

### Crest Hill Daytime, 3rd Tues. @ 11:00 a.m.

- July 17: *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*, by Malcolm Gladwell
- August 21: *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*, by Kim Edwards...When a baby is born with Down Syndrome, the father tells his wife that their baby is stillborn. The story details the lives of those involved and how the original deception affects everyone profoundly.

### Crest Hill Evenings, 4th Tues. @ 7:00 p.m.

*The Crest Hill Evening Group will take a break in July and August but will be back in September.*

# Sign Them Up for the Summer Reading Program!

## Mission Read: To the Library and Beyond...

### June 25—August 4

It's not too late to register your children for the Summer Reading Program at the Crest Hill and Lockport libraries. The program runs for six weeks through Saturday, August 4. All children ages 3 to 13 can participate.

Upon sign-up, all children will receive the calendar of events that includes craft days, science shows, animal shows, a magic workshop, a final party at Dellwood Park, and much more! The complete calendar of events is accessible from our web site @ <http://www.dpvlib.org>.

In addition to participating in any or all of the special programs, children who sign up for **Mission Read** will receive incentive prizes for achieving reading goals. Children will be required to read alone (or be read to) for a total of 12 hours in 15-minute increments to finish the program and be eligible for all prizes. For every three hours read, children will receive a special reading incentive prize to keep them going towards their goal of 12 hours. For more information, see Patty Kulesza at Crest Hill or Jane Gardner at Lockport.

### Registration for Fall Story-Time and Baby Lap-Sit Begins July 30 at Crest Hill

Fall Story-Time begins the week of September 10, and registration will begin on July 30. This literacy-based program features weekly themes with books, games and crafts. Children ages 3 to 6 are welcome to participate. Classes will be offered on the following days and times: Mondays at 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.; 1:00 to 1:45 p.m.; and 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.; Tuesdays at 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.; and 1:00 to 1:45 p.m. Fee is \$10 for residents and \$15 for nonresidents (includes craft fee). Baby Lap-sits will be offered on Thursdays from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. and begin October 4. There is no charge for the baby lap-sit program.

## Adult Summer Reading Program

Summer reading — it's one of the pleasures of the season! We have books, audio books, and magazines to keep you amused, thoughtful, and informed all summer long. And, we have some wonderful prizes — just for reading!

Just like last year, the program is actually two programs. We'll have weekly prize drawings for gift certificates and goodies donated by our generous local merchants. All adults (14 and up) can enter the weekly drawings every time they visit the library and check out materials.

And, we'll be giving away four fantastic baskets at each location to those who choose to complete reading logs and enter those logs in a drawing that will be held at the conclusion of the program. One log = 6 books or audio books. The more you read, the better your chances of winning.

Join the Adult Summer Reading Program now. It runs through Saturday, August 4.

*The Des Plaines Valley Public Library District is subject to the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals who require certain accommodations in order to observe and/or participate in the library's activities, or who have questions regarding the facilities are requested to contact Scott Pointon, Director, at 815-838-0755 or 815-725-0234, promptly to allow the Des Plaines Valley Public Library District to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.*