

Book Review

Three Cups of Tea

by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin



This autobiography is definitely a must-read for twenty-first century educators and anyone vested in learning. Mortenson has offered us all a model for a better world: in his memoir he shares not only his experiences, but hope for a more peaceful enlightened future. He reveals the power of the individual to alter the human condition in a positive manner, and offers the possibility of peace rather than the destruction of

war as a means of reaching a nation in conflict. Education is seen as a solution to poverty and ignorance.

Three Cups of Tea has received a series of book awards: the Kiriyama Prize for non-fiction, Time Magazine's Asian Book of the Year, and other state, bookstore, and cultural awards.

Set primarily in the remote mountains of Pakistan and later in Afghanistan, Mortenson recounts his failed attempt to summit K2 and how a series of mishaps led him to know the local people and make a promise to build a school that ignited his passion and enabled him to create meaning in his life. His zealous devotion is heroic; the risks he takes and the adventures he relates keep readers on edge. Steeped in political intrigue coupled with real life situations, this text is particularly significant to our times.

Mortenson's humanization of the "enemy," his transmission of culture

and religious beliefs, are essential steps toward a more humane, peaceful future. Even readers with divergent political beliefs will find it hard to fault his philanthropic endeavors to educate children—especially young girls—before the Taliban gains more power in the remote regions via the free, but extremist, schools it is rapidly building.

A must-read!

—Reviewed by
Julia Cowans-Wilhelm 🏠

Interested in reviewing a book for the newsletter (or the blog! www.bakervillelibrary.blogspot.com)? E-mail jauclair@snet.net, or call 482-8168.

NEWS FROM THE BAKERVILLE LIBRARY, November 2008. Published by the Friends of the Bakerville Library, 6 Maple Hollow Rd., New Hartford CT 06057. (860) 482-8806.

Coincidentally, the book we will be reading for the next book club meeting, Friday, November 21st at 7:30, is **Three Cups of Tea**.

Library Hours (open every day except Sunday!):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2-6	10-8	2-5	2-6	2-6	9-2*

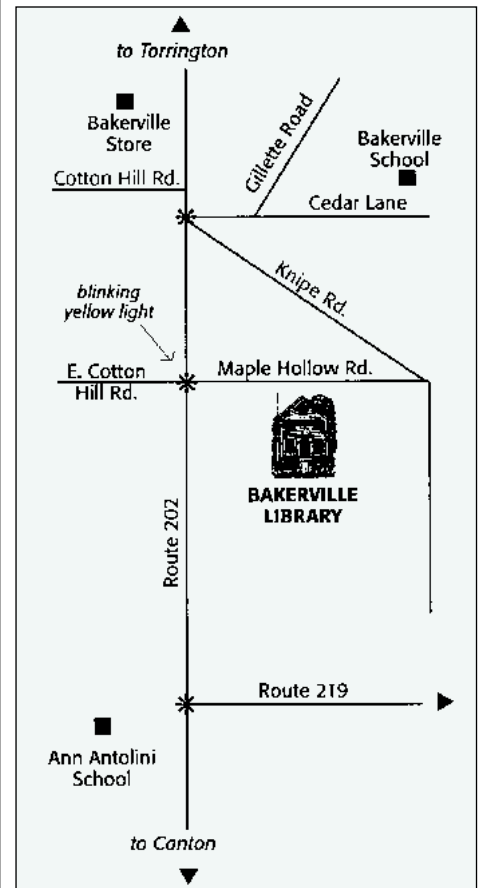
*Winter hours; in June, summer hours will resume (Saturday, 9 am-12 noon).

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NEWS FROM THE BAKERVILLE LIBRARY

Fall 2008

happening @ your library™

The Most Wonderful Time...

Coming December 5th, 2008: It's the Bakerville Holiday Festival. Here's how it works:

1. You bring in your **silent auction donations** (gift baskets, gift certificates, crafts, a tree you've decorated [pick one up at the library], weekends at your summer home, airplane rides) by the Monday after Thanksgiving (December 1st).



2. Beginning Tuesday evening, December 2nd, **start bidding**. Bidding will remain open through Friday. That gives everyone a chance to stop by during the library's open hours and see what would make them happy to win.

3. At 7 pm on Friday three things happen simultaneously:

The final two hours of the **silent auction** begin.



Mrs. Claus is available in the firehouse next door for visits by children and delivery of letters to Santa. Crafts

and music for kids will also be happening there.

The **bonfire, carol sing, tree lighting**, and refreshments will begin in Neal Yates's yard, across Maple Hollow Rd. from the library.

Note: It takes *very severe* weather to postpone any of these events. Snow alone doesn't count, nor does light rain. Most like-



ly, the auction and Mrs. Claus will go on no matter what, because they are indoors. We'll do our best to get the word out, however, if anything is postponed.

4. You help raise money to keep the Bakerville Library going.

Note: This is a big effort on the part of the Friends and the Board. Now would be a great time to join the Friends if you've been wanting to do that (call Milissa Woodward at 482-7561) or just to let the Friends know how you would be interested in helping (also call Milissa about that). 🏠