

# Library News



Sponsored by the Friends of the Bound Brook Memorial Library

Summer 2009

## From the Director – Hannah Kerwin

Shouts of acclamation (huh-ZAH!) were heard on April 18, 2009 during the annual Battle of Bound Brook Reenactment. Uniformed Revolutionary War soldiers (patriotic American militia, His Majesty's forces, possibly some hired Hessians) marched from South Bound Brook over the Queens Bridge to the Old Presbyterian Graveyard adjacent to Bound Brook Library. A crowd gathered for a ceremony featuring the soldiers and local officials. Next, the soldiers moved to opposite sides of the graveyard. The patriots boldly called out taunts ("Lobster Backs") and a skirmish ensued, with a line of American militia vigorously defending the library property. After a few volleys, the soldiers broke ranks and chatted. Unlike the real combatants, these cordial weekend warriors came equipped with colorful business cards promoting the websites of their reenactment units.

A key conflict that contributed to New Jersey's reputation as "The Crossroads of the

American Revolution", the Battle of Bound Brook actually took place on April 13, 1777, when British and Hessian troops, stationed in New Brunswick, attacked the Continental Army garrison in Bound Brook, by way of the Queens Bridge. The Americans were outnumbered and defeated, prompting General George Washington, then at Morristown, to relocate his forces to the Middlebrook encampment along the Watchung Mountains just outside of Bound Brook. From this elevated point, Washington could monitor and counteract British movements. On June 14, 1777, Congress adopted a national flag with thirteen stars and stripes. Tradition holds that the first official flag was unfurled for Washington during this Middlebrook encampment.



The American militia ably defends the Bound Brook Library (that brick building beyond the smoke) from a British onslaught during the Battle of Bound Brook Reenactment.



A small band of rebel soldiers mocks the formality of the British military



British forces charge across the Queens Bridge from South Bound Brook to Bound Brook.



A British officer fraternizes with a townswoman as a young Patriot drummer looks on

## Arbor Day at the Library



To celebrate Arbor Day, the Bound Brook Shade Tree Commission encouraged families look toward the future. Commission members began the afternoon by instructing children in tree-themed crafts. The hungry crafters enjoyed “tree brownies” (below, left). You can make tree brownies at home. Don’t worry; the recipe does not call for wood or dirt of any kind. Start by baking your favorite brownie recipe. While the brownies are still warm, stick pretzel twigs topped with grapes into the pan and voila! - a delicious forest awaits your consumption! After crafts and refreshments, everyone went outside to the library’s front landscaping for more Arbor Day activities. The Shade Tree Commission members provided a planting demonstration, complete with potting soil and a small shovel—the perfect size for a seedling. Each child had an opportunity to shovel some dirt (below, center). After everyone had a turn, Shade Tree Commission members handed out seedlings for the children to plant at home (below, right). If you stop by the Bound Brook Library, be sure to check out our new tree!



## Children's Services – Jacqui Ridzy

After our community spent some time looking to the past at the annual reenactment of the Battle of Bound Brook, the Bound Brook Shade Tree Commission helped children and families look towards the future by planting a tree on library grounds, facilitating educational activities and crafts, and giving visitors seedlings to plant at home. During and after the Battle of Bound Brook, families flooded into the Children's Room for the Arbor Day festivities. Baby pine trees and pansies waiting to be planted adorned the room while children busied themselves with the Shade Tree Commission's activities. They made leaf tracings, cards, and posters while an educational video featuring trees and forests played in the background. "Tree brownies" were also offered as a snack, which was definitely enjoyed by the hungry crafters. You can even make tree brownies at home! Don't worry; the recipe does not call for wood or dirt of any kind. Simply bake your favorite brownie recipe, and while they are still warm stick pretzel twigs topped with a grapes into as many places in the pan as you wish, and voila! A delicious forest awaits consumption.

Before the children were sent home with their seedlings, the Shade Tree Commission provided a planting demonstration, complete with potting soil and a small shovel—the perfect size for a seedling! The next time you stop by the Bound Brook Library, be sure to check out our new tree, courtesy of the Shade Tree Commission and our Arbor Day celebrators.

**Registration required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Call (732) 356-0043 to sign up.**

### **BE CREATIVE @ YOUR LIBRARY: SUMMER READING CLUB 2009**

Toddlers, preschoolers, and children through grade 6 are welcome to join our Summer Reading Club for fun, reading, programs, and prizes! Whether your child is reading on his or her own, being read to, or listening to an audio book, you can count all of these activities for our Summer Reading Club. You can also read all kinds of materials: books from the library, books from home, audio books, magazines, newspapers, blogs, and even the back of a cereal box! This summer's theme is Be Creative @ Your Library, so we will be exploring all different forms of creativity: arts and crafts, music, drama, and maybe a few surprises!

**Registration begins June 22.  
You may register for the club and participate at any time from June 22 through August 30**

### **STORYTIMES**

#### **Family Storytime (Ages 2-5)**

Join us for stories, games, and crafts just for you!

**Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.  
July 9, 16, 23, and 30**

#### **Pajama Time (Ages 3-7)**

Relax and listen to some stories before bedtime. You may wear your PJs or bring your favorite stuffed friend if you wish!

**Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.  
August 5 and 12**

#### **Children's Online Program Calendar**

<http://www.libraryinsight.net/calendarkids.asp?sm=1&jx=jb>

#### **Children's Program Blog**

<http://bblibraryyouth.blogspot.com>

**PERFORMANCES AND PRESENTATIONS****Summer Reading Club Kickoff: The Gizmo Guys (All Ages)**

Lauded by the *New York Times* as a duo of "virtuosity with a touch of lunacy," the Gizmo Guys are coming to Bound Brook! Kick off your creative summer with the infectious humor and dazzling feats of these comedic jugglers!

**Thursday, June 25 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Family Stages Presents Peter Pan (All Ages)**

Come to this imaginative, energetic theater production of the children's classic Peter Pan. In this show we will journey with Peter Pan and the Darling children to the magical world of Neverland!

**Friday, July 24 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Didgeridoo DownUnder (Ages 5+)**

Come to this exciting one-of-a-kind, Australia-themed, educational, motivational, entertaining music event and workshop! This Florida-based didgeridoo player's collective will enlighten you with their knowledge of the Land Down Under and delight you with the beautiful, unique sounds of the didgeridoo, an Aboriginal wind instrument.

**Wednesday, July 29 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Imagination Station (Ages 7+)**

Create a world of your own using your imagination and MIME! You'll "see" a short story in mime, presented by Luana Jones, professional mime, and then learn how to use your imagination and body to tell a story.

**Friday, August 7 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Day at the Movies (Ages 5+)**

Keep cool in the library with a movie rated G or PG on the big screen. Titles will be announced closer to the program dates.

**Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.**

**July 7, 21, August 4, and 18**

**Wii Kakaoke (Ages 8+)**

Think you can be the next American Idol? Show off your skills or just have fun singing along with our karaoke game on the Wii.

**Mondays at 2:00 p.m.**

**August 3, 10, 17, and 24**

**ARTS AND CRAFTS****Messy Mondays (Ages 2-5)**

Encourage your preschool child to be creative and a little bit messy with one of our process driven art projects.

**Mondays at 10:00 a.m.**

**July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17, and 24**

**Fiber Camp (Ages 8+)**

Learn to the principles of knitting, playing with color, and even make your own knitting needles. Registration is required for each session, as materials will be provided and supplies are limited. Drop in knitting for children who already know how to knit and already have a project started at the library is available every day.

**Session 1: Make your own knitting needles**

We will construct needles using wooden craft dowels, sandpaper, and clay beads.

**Wednesday, July 8 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Session 2: Dye your own yarn**

We will dye yarn with kid-safe dye and vinegar.

**Wednesday, July 15 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Session 3: Learn to knit**

Learn to knit using the tools you've created or with store bought needles and yarn.

**Wednesday, July 22 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Sessions 4-7: Knit, Crochet, or Knot**

Build on your knitting skills, learn to crochet, or knot some lanyards or friendship bracelets.

**Wednesdays at 2:00 pm**

**August 5, 12, 19, and 26**

**Fun Foods (Ages 8+)**

Explore the craft of no-cook cooking and edible art.

**Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**

**July 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5, and 12**

**Art Experiences (Ages 5+)**

Be creative and create! Each week we will make a fun craft or art project to take home.

**Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.**

**July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 6, 13, 20, and 27**

**Puppet Playtime (Ages 5+)**

Let your imagination run wild! Make your own puppet and act out a story.

**Fridays at 2:00 p.m.**

**July 10 and 17**

## Friends News – Phyllis Bugal

The Friends held our annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon during National Library Week in April. The food was delicious; many thanks to D'Agostino's Catering. And many thanks to our wonderful Library staff, who do a terrific job all year long!

Our meeting schedule for 2009 is posted on the Friends' bulletin board near the main entrance. Meetings are on September 21 and November 16, beginning at 7:00 p.m. We are in the process of revising our by-laws and at every meeting we discuss new activities and programs to sponsor at the Library. Friends sponsored programs are also posted on the Friends' bulletin board.

The Friends have sponsored the following programs this year: **Art of Pysanky Eggs** with Olga Kobryn, **Antique Appraisal** with Alan Snyder, **Women Soldiers and Spies of the Civil War** with Trish Chambers, **Justin Derman Jazz Trio** and the **Memorial Day Parade Reception**.

If you haven't already made your 2009 membership contribution, please do! We know times are tight, but every member counts and every donation helps. We are grateful for everyone's support.



Olga Kobryn demonstrates the art of Pysanky in March



A painted egg



Eggs displayed in a basket



An etched egg

## Upcoming Adult Programs – Mark your calendars!

Registration required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Call (732) 356-0043 to sign up.

### Library Loopers

Tuesday, June 9, 23, July 14, 28, August 11 and 25 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

An informal gathering of knitters and crocheters. No registration required.

### Somerset County Photography Club

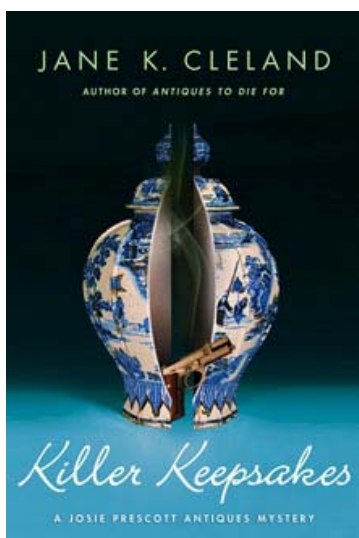
Tuesday, June 9 and 23 at 7:30 p.m.

No registration required.

### Killer Antiques: An Antique Appraiser Helps Solve Crimes

Saturday, June 13 at 10:00 a.m.

In the Josie Prescott Antique Mystery series by Jane Cleland, protagonist Josie Prescott uses her knowledge of antiques to solve crimes. Without revealing any plot points, Jane describes how the appraisal process can be used in mysteries, including: (1) stolen antiques; (2) forged antiques; and (3) faked or exaggerated association. Pit your antique appraisal skills against those of the experts in fun, engaging and on-the-spot challenges.



Nancy Anderson (standing) leads a shell painting class in April

### Secret to Successful Living

Thursday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Presented by Della Menechella, Success Coach, Trainer, Author, and Consultant. This workshop will teach you simple, yet effective ways to break through limitations that may be preventing you from reaching your full potential and living the life of your dreams.

### What It's Like to Be An Author And An Illustrator

Thursday, June 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Join award-winning author Karen Rostoker-Gruber and award-winning illustrator Lena Shiffman to find out what it's like to be an author and an illustrator - first hand. Learn how a book gets published: from concepts to final drafts, from rough sketches to final illustrations, plus every step in between.

### Patriotic Songs

Thursday, July 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Rick Busciglio of *Memory Lane Presentations* will review in pictures and sound the great patriotic songs of America and the stories behind them.

#### Online Program Calendar

<http://www.libraryinsight.net/calendar.asp?sm=1&jx=ib>

#### Adult Programs Blog

<http://www.bblibrary.blogspot.com/>

**How to Get Published**

*Thursday, July 23 at 7:00 p.m.*

Children's book author Karen Rostoker-Gruber returns to guide you through the submission process and to answer all your questions about what to do with your book after you've finished writing it.

**Introduction to Ebay**

*Thursday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m.*

Learn the fundamental skills necessary to buy and sell on eBay. Presented by Darleen Stover an Education Specialist trained by eBay.

**Blues, Beatles and Beyond**

*Wednesday, August 19 at 7:00 p.m.*

Join guitarist (and mystery writer) Peggy Ehrhart and The Still Standing Band in an exploration of popular music's debt to African-American musical traditions. Performing songs associated with such artists as Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, Albert King, and the Beatles, The Still Standing Band will trace the development of the blues-flavored idiom that became classic rock.

## Teen Services – Tricia Curran

Registration is requested for the Teen Summer Reading Club programs, but walk-ins are welcome. The programs are for grades 5/6 through 12, but all ages are welcome!

**Teen Advisory Board Meeting**

*Monday, June 8 at 6:30 p.m.*

**Game Day - Chess Club**

*Saturday, June 13 at 2:00 p.m.*

**Express Yourself @ Your Library**

*Monday, June 22*

Registration begins for the Teen Summer Reading Club. Enter. Read. Win prizes.

**Step Up to the Plate @ Your Library**

*Thursday, July 9 at 7:00 p.m.*

Learn how to win a trip to Cooperstown. Play a baseball game on the Wii.

**Movie Make-up**

*Thursday, July 16 at 7:00 p.m.*

Artist Stephen Davis will demonstrate how to do cool make-up, like they use in the movies and on television.

**Hunterdon Radio Teen Cafe**

*Thursday, July 30 at 7:00 p.m.*

Learn how to be creative on the radio! In this workshop you will turn a poem into an audio script complete with music, sound effects, and different voices.

**Portraiture**

*Thursday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m.*

Don't know what it is? Bring in a picture of your favorite person or pet and find out!"

**Teen Mystery Theater - Whodunnit?**

*Thursday, August 20 at 7:00 p.m.*

Learn how to create a mystery play and act it out.

**Teen Online Program Calendar**

<http://www.libraryinsight.net/calendarep.asp?jx=jb>

**Teen Program Blog**

<http://boundbrooklibrarynj.blogspot.com/>

## From Our Archives – Mary Nelson

August 5, 2009 will be the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sinking of the monitor, **Tecumseh**, during the Battle of Mobile Bay. August 5, 1864 also marks the death of her commander, Tunis Augustus Macdonough Craven. Cmdr. Craven called the Bound Brook/South Bound Brook area home at the time of his death and for twenty years prior, but was a native New Englander.

Cmdr. Craven was an officer in the United States Navy. He served in the Mexican-American War and the Civil War. He commanded the Atrato Expedition in 1857 which surveyed the Isthmus of Darien (now called Panama) by way of the Atrato River for a ship canal. In 1860 he was awarded a gold medal and diploma by Queen Isabella II of Spain for rescuing the crew of a Spanish merchant vessel. He commanded the **Mohawk**, stationed off the Cuban coast to intercept slavers. He captured a brig and liberated 500 who were afterward returned to Africa.

Cmdr. Craven was leading the attack during the Battle of Mobile Bay in the monitor, **Tecumseh**, when it was struck by a torpedo. The order was given to abandon ship. Cmdr. Craven and his pilot, John Collins reached the foot of the ladder to the main deck simultaneously. Craven stepped back, saying "After you, pilot," thus permitting Collins to escape. The vessel sank within twenty-five to thirty seconds. His gallantry cost Craven his life, along with ninety-two **Tecumseh** crew members.

A Confederate sailor somehow managed to collect the United States flag, which had been flying from the **Tecumseh**. He searched for Cmdr. Craven's relatives and learned that a daughter, Mrs. Charles W. Thomae, lived in Bound Brook. He made it his mission to see that she was given the flag. At a union Memorial service in 1894 at the Bound Brook Presbyterian Church, the battle-scarred flag was on display. After the death of Cmdr. Craven's grandson, Augustus Thomae, the flag was sent to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., where it is preserved in the archives of that institution.

At the 1894 church service, the Rev. A.L. Mershon read a poem on the death of Cmdr. Craven. The poem was most probably the one entitled, **Craven**, written by Sir Henry John Newbolt (b.1862-1938), an English poet and Minister of Information. It is printed on the bottom of page 9.

The quote that is most-remembered from the Battle of Mobile Bay, "Damn the torpedoes. Full speed ahead" is usually attributed to Rear Adm. David Farragut. Some historians argue that it may in fact have been uttered by Cmdr. Tunis A.M. Craven. But, there is no doubt about who uttered the most generous three words spoken in that battle, "After you, Pilot."

A buoy that swing to and fro with the ebb and flow of the tide marks the scene of Cmdr. Craven's bravery and of his death, and beneath, only a few fathoms deep, lays the **Tecumseh**.

Three ships of the United States Navy have been named **Craven** after Cmdr. Tunis A. M. Craven: the **USS Craven** (TB-10), a torpedo boat, commissioned in 1900 and decommissioned in 1913; the **USS Craven** (DD-70), a destroyer, commissioned in 1918, served in the Royal Navy as **HMS Lewes**, until scrapped in 1945; and the **USS Craven** (DD-382), a destroyer, commissioned in 1937 and decommissioned in 1945.



Destruction of the USS *Tecumseh*

## **Craven**

(Mobile Bay, 1864)

Over the turret, shut in his iron-clad tower,  
Craven was conning his ship through smoke and flame;  
Gun to gun he had battered the fort for an hour,  
Now was the time for a charge to end the game.

There lay the narrowing channel, smooth and grim,  
A hundred deaths beneath it, and never a sign;  
There lay the enemy's ships, and sink or swim  
The flag was flying, and he was head of the line.

The fleet behind was jamming; the monitor hung  
Beating the stream; the roar for a moment hushed,  
Craven spoke to the pilot; slow she swung;  
Again he spoke, and right for the foe she rushed.

Into the narrowing channel, between the shore  
And the sunk torpedoes lying in treacherous rank;  
She turned but a yard too short; a muffled roar,  
A mountainous wave, and she rolled, righted, and sank.

Over the manhole, up in the iron-clad tower,  
Pilot and Captain met as they turned to fly;  
The hundredth part of a moment seemed an hour,  
For one could pass to be saved, and one must die.

They stood like men in a dream: Craven spoke,  
Spoke as he lived and fought, with a Captain's pride,  
"After you, Pilot": the pilot woke,  
Down the ladder he went, and Craven died.

All men praise the deed and the manner, but we –  
We set it apart the pride that stoops to the proud,  
The strength that is supple to serve the strong and free,  
The grace of the empty hands and promises loud:

Sidney thirsting, a humbler need to slake,  
Nelson waiting his turn for the surgeon's hand,  
Lucas crushed with chains for a comrade's sake,  
Outram coveting right before command:

These were paladins, these were Craven's peers,  
These with him shall be crowned in story and song,  
Crowned with the glitter of steel and the glimmer of tears,  
Princes of courtesy, merciful, proud, and strong.



Tunis Augustus Macdonough Craven,  
Lieutenant Commanding, US Steamer  
*Mohawk*

## New Citizen Maria Fernandez



Seven years ago, Maria Fernandez left her home in Brazil and settled in Newark, New Jersey. Newark has a large population of Portuguese-speakers and Maria was able to continue speaking in her native tongue there. Two years later, she moved to Bound Brook. Here, she had difficulty communicating since she spoke little English or Spanish, but she managed to get by. When she grew concerned about the language barrier between her and her son's teachers at school, she recognized that she had to focus on learning the English language.

Maria came to Bound Brook Library to inquire about English as a Second Language classes. The library regularly hosts series of ESL classes for beginning and intermediate adult students. These classes are free, though students purchase class materials. The library provides the credentialed instructors. Maria signed up for the ESL class with Mary-Helen Mach, an instructor affiliated with the Jointure for Community Adult Education, Inc. Maria later participated in Mary-Helen's conversation class to improve her skills.

Last July, Maria applied to become a United States citizen and Mary-Helen agreed to help her prepare for the test. When they learned in November that the test had been scheduled for December, Mary-Helen realized that Maria would require intensive tutoring to meet this deadline. She introduced Maria to Elizabeth Breedlove, a volunteer tutor for the Jointure ESL program and Literacy

Volunteers of America. Elizabeth has successfully prepared three ESL students to pass the citizenship test.

Maria's citizenship preparation sessions were conducted in the Reading Room or (when it was available) the Meeting Room at Bound Brook Library. Mary-Helen drilled Maria on her English skills and civics knowledge, explaining what would be asked and how to respond in English, both orally and in writing. Elizabeth helped obtain test preparation materials, made flash cards for civics questions and quizzed Maria on the information she had submitted on her Application for Naturalization. Elizabeth made maps to help Maria find her way around the building in Newark where the test would be held and reviewed what documents were needed for security and identification purposes. With some apprehension, Maria took the test as scheduled.

In January, Maria received official notification that she had passed the citizenship test! With joy and considerable relief, Maria thanked her tutors without whom she could not have achieved her ambitious goal of becoming a citizen. She exclaimed, "Now I have no more worries about papers." She thanked everyone who supported her, including her family members, in particular her son who tested her with flashcards, as well as her employer at the time who lent her money to pay for her application and legal services. (This employer presented her with a United States flag after she passed the test.)



## Retired Librarian Becomes Volunteer Tutor

Elizabeth Breedlove, a resident of Somerset County, has 35 years of experience in academic and state libraries. At the New Jersey State Library, prior to her retirement seven years ago, she was the grants supervisor for federal and state funding. After retiring, Elizabeth became a volunteer tutor for Literacy Volunteers of America and the Jointure's ESL program. Her training included a workshop presented by the U.S. Office of Citizenship and Immigration Services on teaching the skills needed to pass the new citizenship test.

According to Elizabeth, in New Jersey, there are so many people who want to learn to speak English to earn a good living and provide for their families. Too often, they cannot achieve their full potential because free English classes or volunteer tutors may not be available or convenient. "Since I retired, I feel blessed to have found a way to give back to my community by assisting people in increasing their English language skills or becoming American citizens. Through volunteering, I feel I receive so much more than I give. I am grateful to have the opportunity to do what I can to help change people's lives."

Elizabeth commends Bound Brook Library for providing meeting space for tutoring and English conversation classes as well as providing books and DVDs for ESL students and those studying for the citizenship test. She notes, "The staff is welcoming. They go out of their way to help people with limited English get library cards and use the library's resources."



# The Friends would like to thank the following for their 2009 contributions (5/11/09):

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**Silver Patron \$250-\$499**

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**Visit us online!**

[www.somerset.lib.nj.us](http://www.somerset.lib.nj.us)

Bound Brook Memorial Library

**Library Closed**

July 3 - Independence Day  
July 4 - Independence Day  
September 7 - Labor Day

**Wireless Service**

The Library offers free wireless Internet access. Bring your laptop and surf the web without a wait!

**Online Program Calendar**

<http://www.libraryinsight.net/calendar.asp?sm=1&jx=jb>

**Library Program Blog**

<http://bblibrary.blogspot.com>

**Library Pictures**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/bblibrary/>

**Next  
Friends  
Meeting**

**Monday  
September 21**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Meet in the  
Library Reading  
Room**

***\*\*\*Please recycle this newsletter by sharing it with a friend, family member or neighbor\*\*\****

**Bound Brook Memorial Library**

402 E. High Street  
Bound Brook, NJ 08805

*BBML*

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