

Library News



Sponsored by the Friends of the Bound Brook Memorial Library

Winter 2009

From the Director – Hannah Kerwin

Have you noticed a welcome change in parking availability at Bound Brook Library? For a long time (years, in fact), the library board and staff members sought convenient parking for library users. Since parking on nearby streets was free and unregulated, parking spaces often were occupied by train commuters and others who left their cars parked all day but did not patronize the library. Late last year, the Bound Brook Borough Council amended the parking regulations as follows:

- Parking on both sides of the library's block of East High Street is limited to two hours from 9 AM to 9 PM Monday through Thursday and 9 AM to 5 PM Friday and Saturday.



East High Street



Hamilton Street

- Parking on the west side of Hamilton Street from East Second Street to Somerset Street is limited to two hours from 8 AM to 6 PM Monday through Saturday.
- The parking meters on Hamilton Street have been removed.
- A handicapped parking space will be added near the library's main entrance on East High Street.

Library users are pleased with the new parking regulations. If you were discouraged in the past by the difficulty of parking close to the library, I encourage you to try again!

Children's Services – Jacqui Ridzy

Some exciting children's programs are coming up this winter. We hope to see you at these events or in the children's department!

Baby Rhyme Time

(Ages 6 mos – 2 ½ yrs)

Come join this lap-sit program full of rhymes, songs, and stories to introduce your child to the joy of books and the library. Stay afterwards for playtime with some new friends!

Monday, February 23 at 10:00 a.m.

Toddler Time

(Ages 2 ½ - 5)

Have fun with stories, fingerplays, songs, and more just for you!

Wednesday, February 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Preschool Storytime

(Ages 3 ½ - 5)

Join us for fun with stories, fingerplays, songs, and more! We hope that the 11:00 am start time of this program will make the library a convenient after Pre-K stop!

Thursday, February 26 at 11:00 a.m.



Children's author Karen Rostoker-Gruber explains the publishing process to future Bound Brook writers.



Popular children's performer Ann Wild engages young patrons in the Reading Room.

Music To Move By with Ann Wild

(Ages birth – 3 years)

Clap your hands, move your feet, and let your child feel the beat! Come to this interactive music experience designed especially for young children.

Friday, February 27 at 10:00 a.m.

Singalong with Irv

(Ages 2-6)

Irv Plastock is an accomplished artist who has been singing and performing for over forty years. He performs a cappella classic children's songs like *The Wheels on the Bus*, *Old MacDonald*, and *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*. Join us for this lively music program!

Friday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m.

Children's Online Program Calendar

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

Children's Program Blog

<http://bblibraryyouth.blogspot.com>

Valentine's Day Party

(Ages 5+)

Do you love the library? We do! You are cordially invited to join us for an afternoon of lovely snacks and card making.

Monday, February 9 at 3:30 p.m.

Sit and Knit

(Ages 8+)

Learn to knit or crochet or practice what you already know!

Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.



Standing room only at our busy children's Internet terminals



Musical Winter Wonderland with Presley and Melody.

Saturday Make and Take Crafts

(Ages 4+)

Drop in anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to make a simple craft or art project to take home. One craft per child please, while supplies last.

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Teen Services – Tricia Curran

Teen Tech Week

March 9 to 14

Press Play @ Your Library - The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Teen Tech Week 2009, which will be celebrated March 8-14, is about connecting teens with different technologies, especially those available through the library.

Teen Advisory Board Meetings

Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11

War of the Worlds

Thursday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.

The Hunterdon Radio Theatre performs the "War of the Worlds" and will talk about the differences in technology at the time of the original broadcast on October 30, 1938 compared to present day.

2009 may have just begun, but we are already planning for the summer! This year's summer reading club theme is Be Creative @ Your Library, so there will be lots of art, music, and drama programs to look forward to!

Teen Online Program Calendar

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

Teen Program Blog

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

Upcoming Adult Programs – Mark your calendars!

We have a new online calendar and registration system. To view the calendar go to the library website, www.somerset.lib.nj.us. Click on “Programs”, then “At Bound Brook”, then “Calendar of Events”. This will show the programs offered at the library month by month. To view the program description click on the program name. Click on the “Sign Up” button to register online. We will continue to take your registrations in person or by phone if you prefer.

Resume Writing Class

Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.

This session will explain the types of resumes that will fit your personal needs. It also looks at the tools and resources you can use to get started. If you have a resume, bring it to the session and use it as a working document.

Journey to Freedom: African-American Life in New Jersey

Thursday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Written by Dr. Randal Westbrook and Lawrence E. Walker this resource contains over 3,000 documents and 13,989 photographs. Also included is footage of African Americans in the Revolutionary War and Civil War from the 1500-1800's. Mr. Walker will discuss the research, photographs and filming that went into the making of this project.



Nancy Leary (left) instructs library patrons on how to create marbled crafts on December 13, 2008.

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



An example of marblizing. Participants dribble paint into trays of liquid starch before placing watercolor paper into the mixture, creating colorful images.

Self Defense for Women

Saturday, February 21 at 10:00 a.m.

This class is designed for women of all ages and girls 12 years and older who wish to learn techniques for personal self-defense against all assaults. Moms and daughters are welcome. The class will begin with a warm-up and joint and balance exercises. Then, participants will learn escapes and counter attacks to choke, wrist grabs, bear hugs, knife attacks, muggings and other street attacks. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Participants should dress comfortably.

The Save the World Diet

Saturday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.

Summit resident Kara Richardson Whitely has lost 120 pounds, and climbed Africa's highest peak - Mount Kilimanjaro - the tallest freestanding mountain in the world, while raising over \$12,000 for charity. She is now encouraging others to use physical challenges for charity as fitness goals. Come hear her story - The Save the World Diet.

Job Interview Skills

Wednesday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.

How do you prepare for a job interview? If you have been out of the job market for a while, you may find that the questions and format have changed. This session will review the types of questions that you may be asked on an interview, the flow of the session, resources and tools that you can use to prepare for the interview, and follow up activities.

How to Talk to Your Kids About Anything and Survive

Monday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m.

"Whatever". "FINE". "I don't know". "LEAVE ME ALONE". If these phrases are familiar to you, then you might be interested in this workshop. The goal of the workshop is to help family members learn how to communicate about difficult topics as well as elicit information about weekend plans.

Celtic Music with Heather Mulvey

Wednesday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of Celtic music performed by Heather Mulvey. She will play selections from her CD *Flowers from the Mountain* released in May 2008.

Stretch Away Stress

Tuesday, March 10 at 10:00 a.m.

Deep breathing and stretching will help you clear your mind and melt away stress. Presented by Shari Brainum, Certified Personal Trainer. ***Advanced registration is required.*** *Attendees should wear comfortable clothing and sneakers and bring their own water and a towel. Class lasts 45 minutes.*

Pysanky - Ukrainian Easter Eggs

Saturday, March 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Pysanky is an ancient and beautiful form of folk art from the Ukraine. It consists of the decoration of eggs using beeswax and dyes. Presentation and samples provided by local artist Olga Cobrin.

Author Sue McGeown

Monday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Sue, a Bridgewater resident and author will discuss her books and the genre of inspirational fiction.

Dance the Day Away

Tuesday, March 17 at 10:00 a.m.

Dance your way to a toned and healthy body! Fun music and easy to follow moves get you in shape fast! Presented by Shari Brainum, Certified Personal Trainer.

Advanced registration is required.

Attendees should wear comfortable clothing and sneakers and bring their own water and a towel. Class lasts 45 minutes.

The Business Plan

Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning on starting your own business? You won't get far without a business plan, which is basically a set of goals and how you intend on achieving them. This program will show you how to create and implement your own business plan. Presented by SCORE, a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs on the formation, growth and success of small businesses nationwide.

How to Market Your Business Using New Media in a Down-Turned Economy

Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Help your business thrive, not just survive, during these challenging economic times by using new marketing media. This is the best time to boost your business, increase sales and market your business using low-cost high-impact Internet-based marketing tools. In this hands-on session, you'll learn which online tools are right for your business and what to say and how to say it when using your website, e-zine (online newsletter), blog, podcast, Facebook and LinkedIn pages.

Online Program Calendar

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

Adult Programs Blog

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

Antique Appraisal with Alan Snyder

Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m.

Alan Snyder of A.G. Snyder & Associates, a certified antiques and estate appraiser, will be at the library to appraise your antiques. Bring your treasures and find out what they are worth. Coffee and breakfast pastries will be provided. **Limit of three items per person.**

Book Discussion *Your Money or Your Life*

Monday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Your Money or Your Life : 9 Steps to Transforming Your Relationship with Money and Achieving Financial Independence by Vicki Robin and Joe Dominguez.

Abs n' More

Tuesday, March 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Time to tone! Come join us and learn how to tone and strengthen your body. Presented by Shari Brainum, Certified Personal Trainer.

Advanced registration is required.

Attendees should wear comfortable clothing and sneakers and bring their own water and a towel. Class lasts 45 minutes.

Women Soldiers and Spies of the Civil War

Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

This presentation addresses those women who chose to become soldiers and spies during the Civil War. See how their ingenuity allowed them to perform successfully in both these endeavors. Learn why they selected the path they did and how they were able to function effectively as soldiers and influence history as spies. Performed in period costume by Trish Chambers.

The Financial Plan

Tuesday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m.

Having a financial plan is one of the keys to a successful business. Learn how to create a reasonable estimate of your company's financial future. Presented by SCORE, a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs on the formation, growth and success of small businesses nationwide.

The Early Marine Life and Dinosaurs of New Jersey

Saturday, April 4 at 2:00 p.m.

John Andrews of the New Jersey Astronomical Association will take us on a trip through New Jersey's very distant past. Long before the dinosaurs appeared the major predators in our region were giant sea scorpions that roamed the seas of western Jersey. This program is appropriate for children of all ages as well as adults.

20 Writing/Publishing Tips From Best Selling Authors – What the Pros Say

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

Taken from interviews with New York Times bestselling authors Carlotta Holton shares tips on writing, networking and selling books.

Author Cheryl Solimini

Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Cheryl is the author of the mystery *Across the River*. She has written and edited articles for national publications such as *Family Circle*, *Working Mother* and *Mystery Scene*. She is also the author of five nonfiction books.

Landscapes on Shells

Thursday, April 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Get ready for summer! Learn how to paint a landscape on a seashell. With a few easy to learn strokes, you will paint a lovely beach scene. Shells, paint brushes and paints will be provided.

Poetry by RJ Clarken

Thursday, April 30 at 7:00 p.m.

RJ will read from her book *Mugging for the Camera*. Taking its inspiration from such brilliantly clever poets as Ogden Nash, Dorothy Parker, Wendy Cope and others, *Mugging for the Camera* is a fun and funny collection of odd, offbeat and really quirky poetry.

Online Program Calendar

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

Adult Programs Blog

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

Movies

42nd Street (1933)

Tuesday, February 24 at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m.

A sickly Julian Marsh (Warner Baxter) puts his all into what may be his last show, only to face a disaster when leading lady Dorothy Brock (Bebe Daniels) sprains her ankle. Thank heavens for ingenue Peggy Sawyer (Ruby Keeler), who steps in at the last minute!

March of the Penguins

Monday, March 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m.

This beautiful nature documentary follows the annual journey of emperor penguins to their breeding ground in Antarctica. Rife with obstacles, the film focuses on one steadfast pair as they face birth and death, dating and mating, predators and even love in their fight for survival. Narrated by Morgan Freeman.

Happy Feet

Monday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25 at 2:00 p.m.

In Antarctica, the Emperor Penguin must attract his mate with his own distinctive heart song. Mumble is a penguin who is born without the ability to sing... however he is the best tap dancer at the South Pole! Toe-tapping may ensue in this sweet animated comedy. Animated feature, voices by: Elijah Wood, Robin Williams, Nicole Kidman.

The 11th Hour

Tuesday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m.

Monday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m.

This documentary from well known activist and actor Leonardo DiCaprio examines the state of the global environment with renewed energy in the wake of recent natural disasters. Included are interviews with over 50 leading scientists, thinkers and leaders who discuss their visionary and practical solutions for restoring the planet's beleaguered ecosystems. Directed by Nadia Conners and Leila Conners.

An Inconvenient Truth

Tuesday, April 28 at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m.

This documentary presents Al Gore's campaign to make the issue of global warming a recognized problem worldwide. Intertwining simple but harrowing statistics with personal reflections, Gore explains that the tools and methods to reverse the damage we have done are at hand and that the economic consequences of tackling the problem are positive rather than negative.

Library Loopers

*An informal group of knitters and crocheters.
New members always welcome!*

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each
month at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**February 10 and 24
March 10 and 24
April 14 and 28**

Somerset County Photography Club

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each
month at 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming meetings

**February 10 and 24
March 10 and 24
April 14 and 28**

Archives – Mary Nelson

The Time When George Washington's Soldiers Serenaded the Dominie at Christmas

"Dominie" is an old Scottish term for a schoolmaster or a minister, typically a Presbyterian minister.



Carved angel detail, Old Presbyterian Graveyard, adjacent to the library

Christmas Eve in Bound Brook in 1778, 230 years ago to be exact, was a very cold night. A blanket of snow had fallen earlier in the afternoon and the wind was whipping the snow along Main Street, where four soldiers stood at the "Sign of the Buck" Tavern, near the corner of what is now Hamilton & Main Streets. They were Corporal Ruddigan, Private Hunt and two others.

The soldiers came from George Washington's Army, encamped on the Albert Bolmer Farm in Martinsville, having made their way to the inn by trudging over the King George Road, now Vosseller Avenue. They had passed by the taproom of the Middlebrook, on purpose, since they had been told that Sam Walker, proprietor of the "Sign of the Buck" planned to have a steaming bowl of Tom-and-Jerry for his Christmas Eve customers. The soldiers partook of the wassail and left without having paid, because Sam said the drinks "were on him," a treat because it was Christmas Eve.

They decided to visit the rest of the Bound Brook villagers, hoping they would find them in the same generous spirit as Mr. Walker. But first, they decided to practice their singing of the wassail song in the Presbyterian Churchyard (current location of the Old Presbyterian Graveyard adjacent to the library.) Corporal Ruddigan and Private Hunt were deep in the chorus and first verse, when the Reverend Israel Read appeared with one of his vestrymen. He lectured the soldiers on their lack of "common decency" in choosing a graveyard to practice the "ribald song."

Some companions from camp arrived and now the group, seven strong, set out westward for William Moore, the hatter's place. "Gentlemen," Mr. Moore said, "I thank you for thus greeting me Christmas Eve with such excellent song. I would like to be in a position to entertain such splendid artists, but my larder is entirely exhausted. But I will give to your leader a new hat and some small donation which he in turn will spend for you on the first possible occasion." Corporal Ruddigan, by now considered the leader, received a felt three-cornered hat and a few shillings and the seven soldiers shook hands with Mr. Moore and wished him a "Happy Christmas."



Oldest extant stone, "Miss Catherine Read, Daughter of Rev. Israel Read, died March 2nd 1760, aged one month"

From there, they visited John Castner, the shoemaker. By this time, villagers from both sides of Main Street had joined the seven soldiers, including John DeGroot and his two serving men. Even the grouch of the village, John Van Schuyck, a drifter recluse from New York, made a speech and partook of some

wassail, dividing a cake and a bottle of wine with those nearest him in the crowd.

Corporal Ruddigan then decided that the crowd should go back to Reverend Read and serenade him properly. The Corporal presented his idea to the crowd from the shoulders of two of his companions. The idea was well received and John DeGroot and Corporal Ruddigan led the procession to the Reverend Read. Reverend Read told the assembled crowd that the nation owed much to the singing soldiers. He recalled that in July 1777, the British, eight thousand men perfectly armed, had occupied the trenches that came through and "partly surrounded our noble village." He recalled that the great man who led the American troops, and who was in Bound Brook during that time and since, General George Washington, had so terrified the Red Coats that their leader, General Howe, was afraid to attack the position that "we held on the mountains behind Bound Brook."

After thanking the soldiers once again, Reverend Read then suggested that since the hour was late, the villagers should accompany the soldiers part way back to their camp, and he would join them. The group then paraded through the village, singing the wassail song as they went on their way.

As the group passed the Middlebrook Inn, William Harris, sheriff and proprietor of the old hotel, came outside and added his speech to the evening festivities. Mugs of mulled ale were passed around and toasts of "Happy Christmas" were heard again. The procession reformed for the march up the King George Road to the bottom of the hill that led to Washington's campground. Here the soldiers and villagers parted company amid cheers, for everyone, from the parson and sheriff down to Bill, the scullion at the "Sign of the Buck."

That was Christmas Eve, 1778 in Bound Brook. Residents talked about the night for many years, calling it the "the time when George Washington's soldiers serenaded the dominie at Christmas."

Source notes:

"Another Christmas in the Bound Brook Area was the Celebration in 1778 When Soldiers of George Washington Made Merry Here," *Bound Brook Chronicle*, Dec. 23, 1937.

"Soldiers Celebrate XMAS (HIC)," Somerset County: 250 Years. Reprinted from *Somerset Messenger-Gazette*, May 17, 1938, Somerville, NJ: Somerset Press, [1938?].

"Washington's Troops Marked Christmas in Bound Brook," *Bound Brook Chronicle*, Dec. 23, 1952.



As part of Somerset County's *Weekend Journey Through the Past* (October 11-12, 2008), Mary Nelson gave tours of the Old Presbyterian Graveyard (adjacent to the library). In the foreground of this photo is the memorial stone of Dr. William McKissack, captain in the Revolutionary War and a founder of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey.



Mary and a visitor review the gravestone map that she prepared with the volunteer assistance of graphic designer Linda Brnicezic.

Friends News – Phyllis Bugal

The Executive Board of the Friends warmly welcomes two new officers this year. Susan Lahey will be our new Treasurer. Our new Recording Secretary is Catherine Barrek, a longtime Friend who has been our liaison to the Woman's Literary Club. Thank you both for stepping up!

At our next meeting, Wednesday, February 25, we will be discussing changes to our bylaws and reviewing our mailing list. We will also discuss and plan programs for 2009, including our annual Friends sponsored events: the Staff Luncheon in April and the Memorial Day Parade reception in May. Please plan to be there to share your thoughts.

We were delighted to see several new faces at our November meeting and we hope the New Year will bring many more Friends out.

The Friends sponsor many exciting educational and entertaining programs every year. To continue to do this we need your help. Please support the Friends by sending in your contribution today. All gifts, regardless of size are appreciated. See page 11 for more information on how to give.



Mystery writer Jane K. Cleland, author of the Josie Prescott Antique Mystery series, participates in the Friends of the Bound Brook Memorial Library Barnes & Noble Booksale/Fundraiser on November 16, 2008.



Maggie Wordsdale and cast at the library on December 14, 2008 to perform a dramatic reading of *A Christmas Carol*, a Friends sponsored event.

Pysanky is an ancient and beautiful form of folk art from the Ukraine. It consists of the decoration of eggs using beeswax and dyes. The Friends will sponsor a presentation and samples by local artist Olga Cobrin on Saturday, March 14 at 2:00 p.m.

The Friends would like to thank the following for their 2008 contributions (12/31/08):

Life Member

Frank J. Stock

Platinum Patron \$1000-\$1999

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Gilly

Gold Patron \$500-\$999

Silver Patron \$250-\$499

Phyllis & Larry Bugal

Jean Finlayson

Patron \$100-\$249

Catherine Zavacky Barrek

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Christine DiGiampaolo & Valerie Salico

Emily Fabiano

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John & Robin Mauro

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Diann, John, Kendall, & Valerie Ward

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Margaret Draghi

Angie Jo Golubiewski

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Lorraine Mozgai

Tributes & Memorials

In Honor of Jean Finlayson

Diann, John, Kendall, & Valerie Ward

In Honor of Marie Liptak Patullo

Helen G. Brown

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Please ask your human resources department about matching gifts!

Become a Friend!

Special Friend: \$10—\$24

Benefactor: \$25—\$49

Sponsor: \$50—\$99

Patron: \$100—\$249

Silver: \$250—\$499

Gold: \$500—\$999

Platinum: \$1000—\$1999

Life Member: \$2000

Make checks payable to: FRIENDS BBML

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone: _____ Email (optional) _____

Support your library!
Send in your 2009 tax-deductible contribution!
Attend Friends meetings!
Become a member of a committee!

Detach and mail or drop off at the library

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We're on the Web!

www.somerset.lib.nj.us

Bound Brook Memorial Library

**Library Closed**

February 12 – Lincoln's Birthday
February 16 – Presidents' Day
April 10 – Good Friday
May 25 – Memorial 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**

**Wednesday
February 25**

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

~in circulation since 1897~

A Branch of the Somerset County Library System