

BOUND BROOK LIBRARY NEWS

Sponsored by the Friends of the Bound Brook Memorial Library Fall 2009

From the Director – Hannah Kerwin



It's summertime at Bound Brook Memorial Library! Our library is a routine destination for record numbers of children, teens and adults. They come to be entertained, to check out materials or simply to cool off from the oppressive heat. The Gizmo Guys (the juggling duo of Allan Jacobs and Barrett Felker) gave performances at each branch of the Somerset County Library System to kick off the children's summer reading program. Here they are at Bound Brook. Children of all ages were amused by their comic patter and thrilled by their feats of skill and daring. Below right, a "volunteer" bravely stood still while the Gizmo Guys tossed yellow bowling pins a tad too close for comfort.



At right, Alicia Conroy conducts a library quiz. Before the summer began, 30 classes from Bound Brook and South Bound Brook, from pre-K to grade 5, visited the children's room. Head of Youth Services Margaret Draghi went to 29 classrooms in Bound Brook, South Bound Brook and Green Brook to promote summer library activities.



This year's children's summer reading theme was *Get Creative @ Your Library*. Children visited "creation stations" set up around the children's room. At left, these boys are using Lego blocks to build models of action vehicles for their favorite super heroes. This Lego collection is aptly named for our summer reading theme—it's called *Lego Creator*.

This enthusiastic five-year-old darted over to Margaret Draghi when he entered the Children's Room. "Can I bring my grasshopper in here?", he implored, proudly showing her the grasshopper in the jar. Margaret did not object, but noted to other staff that he was a bit late – *Catch the Reading Bug @ Your Library* was last year's summer reading theme!



Children had a busy summer at Bound Brook Memorial Library. Besides attending craft programs, storytimes, movie screenings and live performances, they did plenty of reading. A total of 330 children, infants through middle school students, signed up for the summer reading club. In total, they read for more than 100,000 minutes!

Friends News – Phyllis Bugal

Have you ever been to a book launch party? They're loads of fun! I'm not talking about giant Harry Potter style book launches, although they're fun too. My husband, son and I drove into Greenwich Village on June 23 for a party at Partners in Crime, a small independent bookstore specializing in mysteries. The occasion was the release of New Jersey author Chris Grabenstein's latest book, a John Ceepak mystery entitled *Mind Scrambler*.

My son's name appears as a minor character in *Mind Scrambler* as a result of winning a drawing at an Authors Forum held at Bound Brook Memorial Library in April 2008. Chris was one of the writers on the panel at this event sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Chris graciously volunteers to name characters in his books for prizewinners at fundraising events such as this. The Friends of the Library earned over \$500 at the Authors Forum.

The book launch party was packed with Chris' family, friends and fans, as well as other authors (some of whom I recognized from our forum) and their guests. My son didn't know what to expect but ended up thoroughly enjoying the evening. There were boxes of salt-water taffy and a magician entertained (a magic act in Atlantic City is central to the plot).

Chris introduced the people present who had helped get the book into print, then he performed a short reading from the book. There was plenty of wine and food (very important to my 21-year old son).

Everyone mingled, talking books, buying books and getting books autographed by Chris. We bought a dozen copies to give as Christmas gifts. My son had a picture taken with Chris, who told him where to find his name in the book. Afterward, my son volunteered a high compliment: "That dude is really cool. Are all these parties like this?"

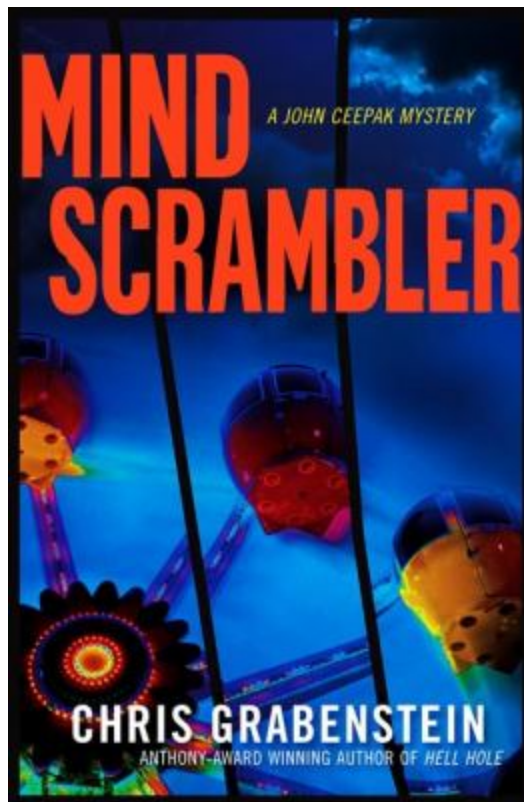
The Friends of the Library doesn't hold fundraisers very often anymore. Our regular membership income has been sufficient for our spending on the library. But everyone is cutting back these days and our membership is dropping!

Starting this winter we will be including flyers in the books checked out by library patrons describing all the services provided by the Friends. If you attend a program at the library with your family or friends, please mention that the Friends fund many of these programs and encourage your guests to join the Friends.

Although we would love for you to contribute as much as you can, as little as \$10 qualifies you as a

Friend of the Library. You will receive the Library's quarterly newsletter, partly funded by the Friends.

Your contribution is tax-deductible and you have the personal satisfaction of knowing that your money is being spent on programs and services in your community. If you have any suggestions or comments about activities, please come to our next Friends meeting on Monday, September 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the library. We welcome all new and old members.



From the Archives - Mary Nelson

Delaware & Raritan Canal Quiz

The Delaware & Raritan Canal was built 175 years ago to provide a short and safe waterway between Philadelphia and New York City. During the excavation, the boulder that serves as the Battle of Bound Brook monument was found. The D & R Canal is listed on both the State and National Registers of Historic Places. What do you know about this historic waterway that separates Bound Brook and South Bound Brook?

- 1) How long is the canal (including the feeder channel)?
a. 47 miles b. 60 miles c. 75 miles d. 88 miles
- 2) How wide is the canal at its surface?
a. 47 feet b. 60 feet c. 75 feet d. 88 feet
- 3) How deep is the canal?
a. 8 feet b. 13 feet c. 18 feet d. 23 feet
- 4) Famed for his work on the Erie Canal, who supervised the construction of the D & R Canal?
a. Frank Theiss b. Henry Koss c. Canvass White d. Harold Engelhardt
- 5) What daily wage was offered to laborers digging the D & R Canal?
a. \$0.45 b. \$0.66 c. \$0.88 d. \$1.00
- 6) Where did construction begin?
a. Bordentown b. Trenton c. Kingston d. New Brunswick
- 7) What New Jersey town anchors the canal to the west?
a. Bordentown b. Trenton c. Kingston d. New Brunswick
- 8) What New Jersey town anchors the canal to the east?
a. Bordentown b. Trenton c. Kingston d. New Brunswick
- 9) How many tons were shipped through the canal in 1866, its busiest year?
a. 1,440,000 b. 1,990,000 c. 2,440,000 d. 2,990,000
- 10) What competition hastened the demise of the D & R Canal?
a. railroads b. highways c. air freight d. new waterways
- 11) In what year did the canal terminate shipping operations?
a. 1933 b. 1952 c. 1974 d. 1981
- 12) In what year were the canal and its banks designated a state park?
a. 1933 b. 1952 c. 1974 d. 1981

Answers on page 11

Miss Jacqui's Fiber Camp

This year's summer reading theme, *Get Creative @ Your Library*, was the inspiration for *Miss Jacqui's Fiber Camp*, a series of craft programs geared towards older children and young teens. The participants did more than learn how to knit; they discovered and enjoyed crafts through which they could express themselves, while strengthening their small motor skills, math skills, concentration and confidence.



The girls dabbled in woodworking by making knitting needles. With some adult preparation and supervision, children as young as five or six can do this. The simple supplies are a pair of 12" wooden dowels (sharpened with an electric pencil sharpener), fine sandpaper, clay beads, waxed paper and glue. At the next session, our fiber enthusiasts worked on raw materials by dyeing natural wool yarn. The right combination of colorfast dye (we used Easter egg dye), acid (vinegar) and heat (Crock Pots) creates a chemical reaction that will color permanently any protein fibers such as wool. The girls didn't realize they were performing a science experiment!

With this activity, the girls became more personally invested in their product. The fifteen-year-old at right remarked, "Dyeing my own yarn was fun because the project that I knit with it will be completely my own." Her project: "something really special-maybe my first lace scarf."

Now that our creative kids had their one-of-a-kind needles and yarn all set, it was time to use them! Fiber campers who already knew how to knit practiced impressive techniques like cables and lacework. The beginning knitters showed great determination. Several girls commented that their mothers, aunts or grandmothers knit or crochet with them at home. This connection enriched precious family bonds. A nine-year old who was taught to knit and crochet by her grandmother pledged to continue a family tradition. She said, "My grandma and my parents have had crocheted blankets for as long as I can remember. Once I get the hang of it, I can make a blanket for my family too!"



Children's Services – Jacqui Ridzy

Registration required for all programs unless otherwise noted.

Music to Move By with Ann Wild

(Ages birth - 3)

Fridays, September 25, October 2, 23 and November 6 at 10:00 a.m.

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

(Registration is required for each Ann Wild session you wish to attend.)

Baby Rhyme Time (Ages 6 - 23 months)

Mondays, September 21, 28, October 5, 26, November 2, 9 and 30 at 10:00 a.m.

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 new friends!

(Note there will be no Baby Rhyme Time on October 12, 19, November 16 or 23.)

Family Storytime (Ages 2 ½ - 5)

Wednesdays, September 23, 30, October 7, 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for fun with stories, finger plays, songs, and more just for you!

Get Crafty: Hispanic Heritage Month (Ages 5+)

Thursday, September 24 at 3:30 p.m.

Get creative with us for a special after school craft and snack in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Movie: Monsters vs. Aliens (Ages 6+)

Saturday, October 3 at 1:00 p.m.

In this animated feature, a meteorite from outer space hits a young girl and douses her with the alien liquid Quantonium. She turns into a 48-foot tall monster. She is taken to a secret government compound and meets a ragtag group of monsters. This crew of reluctant heroes tries to save the earth from the evil alien Gallaxhar. This film is rated PG for sci-fi action, some crude humor and mild language.

Children's Online Program Calendar

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

Children's Program Blog

<http://bblibraryyouth.blogspot.com>

Teen Services – Tricia Curran

Banned Books Week

September 26—October 3

The week's theme is ensuring the availability of books with unorthodox or unpopular points of view. Celebrate your freedom to choose what you read and read what you choose!

Teen Read Week

October 18—October 24

Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library

Read something out of this world, just for the fun of it!

Encyclopedia Horrifica

Thursday, October 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Joshua Gee will be here to talk about his book, *Encyclopedia Horrifica: The Terrifying TRUTH! About Vampires, Ghosts, Monsters and More*, a nonfiction reference guide exploring hundreds of fear facts—from aliens to zombies. The book includes special investigations in search of real-life X-files such as a haunted house in New York and P.T. Barnum's Feejee Mermaid.

Professional theatrical makeup designer Stephen Davis offered well attended interactive programs at each branch to kick off teen summer reading. During an hour of *Blood, Guts and Gore* at Bound Brook Library, Mr. Davis explained the basic supplies and techniques for horror makeup. He shared little known details, such as the type of fake blood used in an actor's mouth compared to other applications. After demonstrating effects, Mr. Davis invited the teens to *Express Yourself @ Your Library* through makeup.



Teen Online Program Calendar
<http://www.libraryinsight.net/calendarep.asp?jx=jb>

Teen Program Blog
<http://boundbrooklibrarynj.blogspot.com/>

Upcoming Adult Programs

Psychology of Positive Thinking

Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Author Edward Nystrom's presentation will answer these two questions: (1) How is it that we have been so wonderfully made and can feel such great joy and love? (2) Why is it that at other times we feel so limited that we fall far short of what we could be? If we use our mind to control our brain, instead of the other way around, then we will have the power to affect reality with our thinking.

Meet Author Evelyn David

Tuesday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Evelyn David is the author of the Sullivan Investigations mystery series (*Murder Off the Books, Murder Takes the Cake*).

Meet Author Kenneth Frederickson

Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 a.m.

South Bound Brook resident and author Kenneth Frederickson will discuss his new book *So What I Stutter*. He will autograph copies of his book. No registration required.

Alborada Spanish Dance Theater

Saturday, September 19 at 2:00 p.m.

New Jersey's Premier Flamenco and Spanish Dance Company returns to Bound Brook. They gave a memorable performance last year!

Friends of the Library Meeting

Monday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome. No registration required.

Great Storms of the Jersey Shore

Thursday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Margaret Thomas Buchholz will present a dramatic history of the major coastal storms that have hit the Jersey Shore throughout recorded history. This slide show is adapted from her generously illustrated book, *Great Storms of the Jersey Shore*, which includes narratives of the 1962 northeaster and the great hurricanes of 1938 and 1944.

Grave Rubbings

Saturday, September 26 at 2:00 p.m.

Natalie Zaman and Katharine Clark will introduce

"death culture"—the way we look at death, then and now, mourning customs and cemeteries. They will talk about the Old Presbyterian Graveyard, adjacent to the library. Learn about the materials and methods used in grave rubbings, as well as etiquette and laws. Weather permitting, they will demonstrate this art in the graveyard.

Women, Money & Power

Tuesday, September 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Recent studies of women earning more than \$100,000 per year revealed that 48% of these women feared becoming a bag lady! Nancy Y. VanderGoot and Alina Klein, financial advisors at Merrill Lynch, will discuss:

- Becoming and staying financially sound
- Protecting your assets
- The financial impact of divorce
- Women's needs for retirement
- Leaving a legacy

Poetry Performance with Rita Ben-Or

Thursday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Did you ever experience a poetry performance by a professional actor? It's vivid, alive and tells it like it is! Actor/Poet Rita Ben-Or will take you through the emotions, reflections, terror, heartbreak, humor, reconciliation and just plain love of life as she's lived it and written it from earliest childhood to maturity. She is the author of *Stages: Poems of a Cycle of Life*.

Self Defense for Seniors

Friday, October 2 at 10:30 a.m.

Black Belt Instructor Walter Miller returns to the library to present this program designed to teach seniors safety and self defense.

Songwriters-in-the-Round

Saturday, October 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Composer Kim Yarson will showcase the original music of two notable songwriters, as well as her own songs. Performers will share the stories behind the songs and sing them acoustically.

Mark your calendars!

Business Owners Panel Discussion

Monday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Representatives from Merrill Lynch will discuss topics of interest to small business owners.

Long Term Care Benefits for Veterans and Their Spouses

Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Learn about a little-known and underutilized government program that provides benefits to qualified individuals.

Tours of the Old Presbyterian Graveyard

Saturday, October 10, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, October 11, noon to 5:00 p.m.

Bound Brook Librarian Mary Nelson will conduct tours of the graveyard, the final resting place of some interesting people. Meet in the graveyard, adjacent to the library. This event is part of *Weekend Journey Through the Past*, sponsored by the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission (see page 10).

Salem Witchcraft Hysteria

Thursday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m.

What are the four factors that need to be present in any society to recreate the Salem witchcraft hysteria of 1692? Could it really happen again? Join Carlotta Holton, author of *Salem Pact*, *Touching the Dead* and *Vampire Resurrection* as she discusses this fascinating subject.

Guitarist Tomas Rodriguez

Saturday, October 17 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for a cross-cultural musical journey,

paying homage to musical treasures from Spain, South America and Africa and introducing original compositions that invoke the soulful musical dialogue of the Americas.

Economic Update

Wednesday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Representatives from Merrill Lynch will discuss the current state of the economy.

Celtic Harp and Song

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

A recital by harpist Odarka Stockert.

Sharing Our World with Raptors

Saturday, November 7 at 2:00 p.m.

What are raptors? Get to know some of the hawks and owls that are common residents of New Jersey and find out how important they are to the natural world that we all share. Please note that a live bird will be on hand during the program. Presented by Lauren E. Butcher, Education Director at the Raptor Trust.

Homegrown String Band

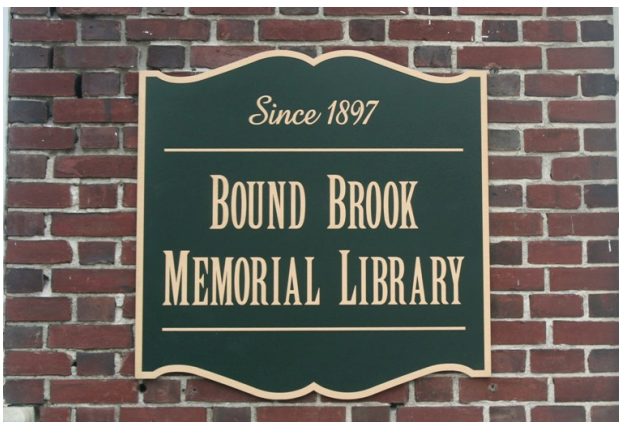
Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 p.m.

"The family that plays together" will perform traditional and original high energy American music.

Painted Floor Cloths

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

Artist Nancy Leary will conduct a hands-on workshop on making one-of-a-kind canvas floor cloths, using techniques dating back to colonial times.



The Library Advisory Board recently purchased a classically styled bronze sign that is clearly visible from the corner of Hamilton and High Streets. "Since 1897" refers to the year when the Woman's Literary Club of Bound Brook founded the library. This building, however, dates from 1924. A straightforward "entrance" sign was installed next to the High Street steps.

Weekend Journey Through the Past

The Old Presbyterian Graveyard in Bound Brook

(East Street & East High Street, adjacent to Bound Brook Library)

Saturday, October 10 - 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 11 - Noon to 5:00 p.m.



The Old Presbyterian Graveyard in Bound Brook is the final resting place of Bound Brook's earliest citizens, as well as many Revolutionary War soldiers—forty-six, including one Loyalist, have been identified. Veterans of the War of 1812, the Mexican War and the Civil War are also buried here.

Come and see the impressive artwork on memorial stones and learn the meaning behind the inscriptions and epitaphs! An historical re-enactor will portray gravestone carver Henry Sillcocks of New Brunswick, whose work is represented in the graveyard. He will talk about the folk art of gravestone carving and point out motifs that reveal changing beliefs about death and memorialization.

Bound Brook Memorial Library Reference Librarian Mary Nelson will provide guided tours of the graveyard. She will be assisted by Bound Brook resident Linda Brnicezic. The tours will feature the intact gravestones of twelve Revolutionary War soldiers and the gravesite of Dr. William D. McKissack, a captain in the Revolutionary War and a founder of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey.

The Old Presbyterian Graveyard is the only site in Bound Brook included in the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission's *Weekend Journey Through the Past*.

The Friends would like to thank the following for their 2009 contributions (8/9/09)

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In Honor of George Liptak & Teresa Sferra
Helen G. Brown

D & R Quiz (page 4) Answers

1 b 2 c 3a 4c 5d 6c
7a 8d 9d 10a 11a 12c

*The three wrong answers for question 4 are
real ancestors of library staff members.*

Become a Friend!

Special Friend: \$10—\$24

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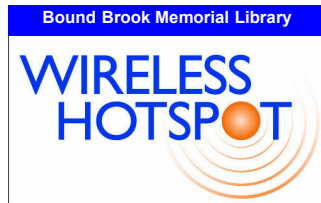
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Paul Schroeder
Newsletter Editor
(732) 356-0043
pschroed@sclsnj.org

Hannah Kerwin
Supervising Editor
hkerwin@sclsnj.org

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Library Closed
September 7—Labor Day
October 12—Columbus Day
November 3—Election Day
November 11—Veterans Day
November 26 & 27—Thanksgiving
December 24 & 25—Christmas
December 31—New Year's Eve
January 1—New Year's 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/>

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