The Chronicle

NEWJERSEY Library Association

The Newsletter of the History & Preservation Section of the NJLA

Spring 2014 **Volume 15 Number 4**

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To submit articles, news or calendar events to *The Chronicle*, email Sarah Hull, newsletter editor, at sarah.hull@plfdpl.info. Feel free to send images to accompany the text.

The submission deadline for the August issue is July 14, 2014.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Jessica M. Myers,
President NJLA History & Preservation Section

My last letter

This has been a terrific year. Members throughout the state came together to revitalize and share ideas and programs. For me it is not so much the organizations but the incredible number of committed people. Our membership now includes archivists, reference librarians, historians, students, and specialists in conservation, preservation or genealogy. NJLA's History & Preservation Section benefits from recent involvement of MARAC, NJSL, SOURCE, and PPG members who contribute their expertise, challenges, and plans.

Thanks to all forty of you who turned out to the Spring Gathering of NJLA History and Preservation and Reference Sections in Plainfield. It was wonderful to finally meet so many of you. We so appreciate your coming as well as volunteering to design and print PR and serve as Conference room watchers. Officers announced H&P Board nominations and our conference programs. Members told us about all of their upcoming programs between April and the June 2-4 Conference. Don't miss it! If you have not signed up yet, it is not too late.

President - Elect, Danny Klein will take over on July 1. He is the best. Get ready for an action-packed year with him at the helm of our incoming talented board. Thank each of you for participating and reaching out to stay involved in History & Preservation. You have made it a wonderful and rewarding year.

Jessica

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CHESTER LIBRARY CELEBRATES NJ350 WITH MAP EXHIBIT AND PROGRAM

By Deb Schiff, Local History Librarian, Chester Library

All photos credited to Deb Schiff

One of the crowning jewels of the Chester Library is its 1860 New Jersey Topographic Map. Shown here with Library Assistant Maureen Davidson, the map measures approximately 80 x 70 inches framed, and occupies the wall to the left of Group Study A. Two years ago, the map was conserved by the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) in Philadelphia, thanks to a generous donation by the Friends of the Chester Library. The map is now the center of an exhibit and the focal point of a talk by Maxine Lurie at the Library on April 29 at 7 pm.

Because it was published soon before the outbreak of the U.S. Civil War, the map is a vital document of our state's history. It also is the last, and arguably most important, work of William Kitchell, the second State Geologist of New Jersey. Morris County native and Morristown resident William Kitchell (1827-1861) was a non-practicing medical doctor who was a teacher at Newark Institute when he was appointed State Geologist and Director of the N.J. Geological Survey in 1854. Prior to his appointment, the last survey report had been published in 1840, and the office of State Geologist had not existed for 14 years.

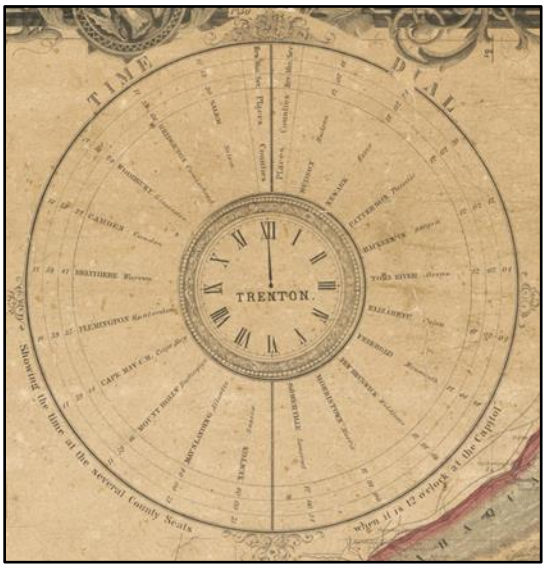
Kitchell surveyed the northern part of the state and appointed George H. Cook, the professor of Chemistry and Natural Science at Rutgers College, to survey the southern half. Kitchell's work is notable in a number of ways. For instance, he organized the first state-sponsored topographic survey in the United States. However, his county-by-county surveying plan was too ambitious, and by 1856, the state legislature had cut his funding and the office of State Geologist. Four years later, with the help of the State Agricultural Society, Kitchell gained state approval to continue the survey work, but at his own expense.

After Kitchell died suddenly of pneumonia in 1861, Cook took over the work (also without pay) until 1864, when he impressed the state legislature enough with his report that they repaid him his expenses, restored funding for the Survey, and appointed him State Geologist.

Created from the State Geological Survey, U.S. Coast Survey, and surveys by civil engineer G. Morgan Hopkins, the map features illustrated views of Camden, Delaware Water Gap, New Brunswick, Newark, Paterson, and Trenton. Mapped segments of New Jersey's borders with Delaware, New York, and Pennsylvania, as well as the coastline, provide remarkable detail of the state's roads and topography. Additionally, visitors can see street map insets of Belvidere, Beverly, Bordentown, Burlington, Camden, Elizabeth, Jersey City/Hoboken,

Morristown, Mount Holly, New Brunswick, Newark, Newton, Orange, Paterson, Rahway, Salem, and Trenton.

The map also features a meteorological map of the state and a "Time Dial" (below) showing the time in select cities when it is 12:00 in Trenton. The time dial is of particular interest to researchers exploring time measurement prior to the introduction of Standard Time in 1883.



The weather map portion has a little controversy attached to it. Although our map says Lorin Blodget (1823-1901) wrote *American Climatology*, the actual title of his seminal work is *Climatology of the United States* (1857). The book earned him the moniker "Father of American Climatology." Prior to publishing it, however, Blodget had a storied past. He had been hired in 1851 to reduce the meteorological data collected by the Smithsonian Institution, but was fired over a salary dispute. Later, he was rehired and fired again in 1854 for a host of reasons, not the least of which included taking credit for work done in the Smithsonian's name. You can find the detailed letters written by the first Secretary of the Institution, Henry Joseph, documenting these troubles online at http://www.collections.si.edu.

To learn more about the map and access a digitized image of it, please visit http://chesterlib.com/local-history-room/about-our-1860-new-jersey-topographical-wall-map/.

H&P PROGRAMS AT THE NJLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014

By Danny Klein, H&P Section Program Chair

Please join the History and Preservation Section for these interesting and informative programs at the 2014 Conference, ***Creating Our Futures***. **All sessions are on Tuesday, June 3.** Register at http://njlaconference.info/.

The Public Library as Community Disaster Recovery Center: How to Prepare Your Library & Your Community for an Emergency – 9 to 9:50 am

Panel: Marie Downes, Director, and Cheryl Rheiner, Librarian, West Deptford Library; Michele Stricker, Associate Director, Library Support Services, NJ State Library; Barb Hauck-Mah, Director, Caldwell Public Library; Allison Moonitz, Supervising Librarian, Mahwah Public Library

Co-sponsored with Administration and Management

Future History: Planning Programs for New Jersey's 350th Anniversary – 11:30 am to 12:20 pm

Moderator: Frederic Pachman, Monmouth Medical Center

Panel: Chad Leinaweaver, Assistant Director, Morristown and Morris Township Public Library; Sara Cureton, Executive Director, New Jersey Historical Commission; Joseph Klett, Chief of Archives, New Jersey State Archives

Co-sponsored with Reference and Reader's Advisory

Looking Forward by Looking to the Past: N.J. Historians Speak – 2 to 2:50 pm

Moderator: Chad Leinaweaver

Panel: Walter Greason, author and educator, Monmouth University; Cheryl Turkington, author, Morristown & Morris Township Library; John Zinn, author and chair, New Jersey Historical Society

Co-sponsored with Reader's Advisory

Preserving Your Photographic Treasures – 4:10 to 5 pm.

Speaker: Gary D. Saretzky, Monmouth County Archivist

Co-sponsored with Technical Services.

DON'T MISS THESE POSTER SESSIONS

Formal poster sessions are on Tuesday, June 3 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm.

Introducing the Badian Roman Coins Collection **-** This poster session documents the digitization project for the Badian Roman Coins Collection, donated to Rutgers University Libraries by the late Dr. Ernst Badian, which features over 1,200 coins from every period of the Republic. Presenters: Annamarie Klose and Scott Goldstein, Digital Humanities Specialists, The Badian Roman Coins Collection, Rutgers University Libraries, and Rick Hale, PhD Candidate, Classics Department, Rutgers Univ.

Matchbox Memory: A Local History Program for Kids - This session illustrates a collaboration between the Children's and Local History librarians to bring local history and preservation to third graders. Based upon a children's book, the program included a reading of the story, a presentation of historical materials from the library's archives, and a related craft project. Presenters: Janice People, Children's Services Section; Sarah Hull, H&P Section.

The Touchable Exhibit - A presentation of a scrapbook based on an actual exhibit at the Red Bank Public Library New Jersey History Room. The exhibit was an extensive collection of photos, prints, bottles, and other various ephemera relating to the history of Red Bank. The scrapbook enabled enlarging small items for better viewing, and allowed patrons to "touch" the items in the exhibit. Presenter: Mary Hussey, H&P Section.

CAUCUS ARCHIVAL PROJECTS EVALUATION SERVICE (C.A.P.E.S.) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF ARCHIVAL CONSULTING IN NEW JERSEY

By Elsalyn Palmisano and Frederic C. Pachman

Does your local history room or archives look like this? Perhaps this is a little dramatic, but it is an actual photograph taken by a consultant at the beginning of a CAPES survey.

In 2014, the Caucus Archival Projects Evaluation Service (CAPES) celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary. The program was conceived in December 1988 when a group of archivists and librarians led by Karl Niederer from the New Jersey State Archives and New Jersey Historical Commission staff led by Richard Waldron were discussing which state agency was responsible for assisting local organizations to professionally care for their archival collections. The New Jersey Historical Commission grant program was the only state agency at that time that offered assistance to organizations for a variety of New Jersey history projects. However, the grant reviewers had difficulty evaluating proposals that were often written by well-intentioned, but professionally untrained, staff of local historical organizations since they did not have the archival expertise to clearly state their needs. What these local historical and other non-profit organizations needed was both professional expertise and funding to implement archival and preservation programs. Thus, CAPES was organized to address this need.

The New Jersey Historical Commission could financially support the program through grant funding but an organization was needed to provide the necessary professional expertise to implement it. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) New Jersey Caucus, then chaired by Maxine Lurie, offered to provide this expertise and operate the program. MARAC was founded in 1972 as a regional non-profit organization of professional and volunteer archivists, librarians, manuscript curators, and record managers who live or work in the seven Mid-Atlantic States from New York to Virginia plus the District of Columbia. The organization has two conferences each year and offers additional continuing education opportunities throughout the year. It also provides opportunities for networking and other archival professional activities. Today, there are over 100 members of the New Jersey Caucus of MARAC.

In Spring of 1989, led by the first CAPES coordinator, Lois Densky-Wolff, the group began implementing the program; and Elsalyn Palmisano completed the first survey at the Manville Public Library. The New Jersey Historical Commission approves the CAPES grant applications and consultants, who must be members of the New Jersey Caucus, are assigned to visit the institutions. Since the program's inception, its complementary goals have been to both improve the quality of grant proposals to the New Jersey Historical Commission, as well as to provide professional guidance on all aspects of archival administration and preservation. Evaluations are

available to eligible agencies and organizations without charge. Institutions include local and county historical societies, public libraries, college and university libraries, churches, and medical centers. Collections must be open to the public and relate to New Jersey history. For detailed information link to:

http://www.state.nj.us/state/historical/dos_his_grants.html#capes

Once a match is made, the consultant will contact the organization to arrange an on-site visit. Following a proprietary template, the following topics are reviewed: proper environmental conditions of the overall facilities and storage rooms, fire and security protection, the proper housing and shelving of materials, budget and history of the organization, arrangement and description of the materials, and the development of policies and procedures. A recommended 'Resource List' is also provided for discussion during the survey.

The consultant writes a report documenting his findings and outlining steps the grantees can take to improve their archives. Then the report, usually with accompanying photos and documents, is sent to the Coordinator. An electronic copy is made, and the Coordinator, upon approving the report sends it to both the applicant and the Commission. Their copy is housed at the New Jersey State Archives. The Coordinator's copies are eventually housed at the Monmouth County Archives at the Monmouth County Library in Manalapan, N.J. To date 450 surveys have been completed by a roster of fourteen consultants.

CAPES poster session at the New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference June 2013; Elsalyn Palmisano and Frederic Pachman.

The CAPES program has been a huge success. This year, 2014, marks our twenty-fifth year. After an evaluation, agencies look at their records and facilities in a new way, and reset their priorities. For many organizations, the report is a stepping stone to expanded facilities and improved services to their constituents. They need how-to-do-it information and CAPES provides it. With the Commission's continued support, we hope to provide this valuable service for many years to come.

Elsalyn Palmisano is a former CAPES Coordinator (2005-2006) and is still active as a consultant. epalmisa@monmouth.edu

Fred Pachman is the current CAPES Coordinator and is looking forward to a time when he can serve as a consultant. capescoordinator@gmail.com

ROSTER OF C.A.P.E.S. COORDINATORS
Lois Densky Wolff, UMDNJ Library, 1989 – 1994
Robert Stewart, Asbury Park Public Library, 1995 – 1997
Dan Jones, New Jersey State Archives, 1998 – 2004
George Cooke, Franklin Lakes Public Library, 2004
Elsalyn Palmisano, Consulting Archivist and Records Manager, 2005 – 2006
Carla Zimmerman, Rutgers University Libraries, 2007 – 2008
Elizabeth Shephard, Cornell Medical Library, 2008 – 2011
Frederic C. Pachman, Altschul Medical Library, Monmouth Medical Center, 2012 –

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY DAY

By Gary Saretzky, Archivist, Monmouth County Archives

Archives and History Day will be Saturday, October 11, 2014, and we will have two public programs on October 8.

Music of the Civil War Era, presented by historian and musician Joe Becton, will be the featured program on October 11. Becton's program will be from 1 to 2 pm. The complete event also includes a History Forum, 62 exhibit tables hosted by history organizations, awards presentations, and a history game with prizes, as well as a tour of the Monmouth County Archives.

In connection with Archives and History Day, there will also be an exhibit, ***Civil War: New Jersey in Focus***, in the Monmouth County Library's gallery, during the entire month of October and subsequently on the lower level of the library in the hallway near the Monmouth County Archives.

On October 8 in the morning, there will be a workshop for history intern supervisors. The speakers are:

Elizabeth Allan, Curator, Historic Morven

Kay Cassell, Lecturer and Director, MLIS Program, SCI, Rutgers

Christopher Hayes, Assistant Internship Coordinator, Rutgers History Dept.

Danny Klein, Jersey City Library

Annamarie C. Klose, recent intern, Rutgers MLIS Program

Gary D. Saretzky, Monmouth County Archivist

Claire Schmieder, Alice Paul Institute

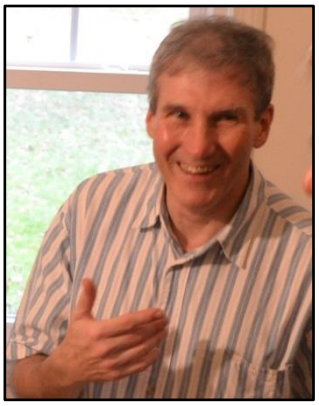
On October 8 from noon to 1 pm, there will be a meeting of the New Jersey Library Association History & Preservation Section in the library.

On October 8 at 1 pm, Gary Saretzky will give a lecture, ***'Ere the Shadows Fade': New Jersey's Civil War Photographers***.

(l to r) Red Bank Library volunteers, Nancy Tarbell and Sue Goldberg; Elizabeth McDermott, and Keynote speaker, Marc Mappen. Archives Week 2013. Photo Credit: Chuck Steiner

TIM CORLIS HONORED
WITH NJLA SUSAN G. SWARTZBURG AWARD

Submitted By Jessica Myers, President, NJLA History & Preservation Section



GOOD NEWS TRAVELS FAST

Tim Corlis, Head of Preservation for Rutgers University Libraries and Special Collections has received the NJLA 2014 Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award in recognition of his statewide leadership and dedication to preservation or interpretation of archival, library, and historical materials. It will be presented during the Awards Reception from 6 to 8 pm at NJLA Annual Conference on June 3, 2014 in Atlantic City.

BOOKS ARE THE THING

This is a column of books about books, or people who love books, or....

Joe Da Rold, reviewer

Ancient books often call out to contemporary authors.

Benson Bobrick's ***Wide as the Waters*** (2001) is a fascinating book that documents the linguistic struggles to create an English translation of the Bible and the political intrigues behind it all. Familiar historic characters include Henry VIII, Mary and Elizabeth, and of course King James.

Friedman, Matti. ***The Aleppo Codex: a true story of obsession, faith and the pursuit of an ancient book*** (2012). Known as "The Crown," this codex is considered the most accurate text of the Hebrew Bible. It was dictated by the scholar Aaron Ben-Asher to the scribe Shlomo Ben-Buya in 930 C.E. Tiberias. Stolen by the Crusaders, it is endangered by fire and riots, and safeguarded from private collectors over and over for more than a thousand years. Parts of the book are fascinating, but Friedman's writing weakens when he strays from the history of the codex.

With ***Blood Gospel*** (2013), James Rollins launches the "The Order of the Sanguines" series. The central plot revolves around the search for the bible written by Jesus himself. Rollins fans may not enjoy the atypical cast of vampires, feral wolves and vampire bats, but other readers may love it. I couldn't figure out why the Bible from that time period would be a codex rather than a scroll. Fans of his "Sigma Force" series are better served in ***The Doomsday Key*** (2009), a fast-moving thriller that explores the mystery of King Edward's "Domesday Book," a census of its day. Has the book spawned a curse into the present?

NEW JERSEY STATEWIDE EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONFERENCE CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PARTNERS IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE & RECOVERY

Submitted By Michele Stricker, Associate Director, Library Support Services, NJSL

Cultural Institutions & Emergency Management: Partners in Disaster Response & Recovery is intended for collections care professionals and volunteers. This conference will address important facets of emergency response, as well as building local networks for collaborative mutual aid. Presenters will include first responders and representatives from organizations such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management.

The conference will be held on July 30, 2014, from 9 am to 4 pm at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, NJ. The registration deadline is July 23rd; the fee is $25. Registration, secure credit card payment, and additional program information are available at www.ccaha.org/education/program-calendar.

Conference agenda:

9 to 9:15 am - Registration and Refreshments

9:15 to 9:30 am – Welcome and Introductions

9:30 to 10 am – ***Purpose and Importance of Emergency Networks*** with Lori Foley, VP, Emergency Programs, Heritage Preservation, Washington, DC.

10 to 10:45 am – ***KEYNOTE: The Worst of Times: Protecting Heritage In Armed Conflicts and Natural Disasters*** with Corine Wegener, Cultural Heritage Preservation Officer, Office of the Under Secretary of History, Art, and Culture at the Smithsonian. When manmade or natural disasters strike, governments, international organizations and nonprofits provide the victims with vital rescue and humanitarian relief services. But after the initial response, who arrives to help preserve the cultural heritage of that community? Which government, international and nonprofit organizations are responsible for heritage disaster planning, response, and recovery? How good are they at preventing looting and damage to our shared cultural heritage? Wegener will share insights from her experiences as an "Arts, Monuments, and Archives Officer" in the U.S. military in Iraq, as head of the nonprofit U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield, and in her new role coordinating the Smithsonian's emergency response for heritage programs in the U.S. and around the world.

10:45 to 11 am – Break

11 to 12:30 pm – ***How to Work with Federal & State Emergency Management*** with Mary Goepfert, External Affairs Officer, NJ Office of Emergency Management and Kelly Britt, Archaeologist, Department of Homeland Security, FEMA II.

12:30 to 1:30 pm – Lunch

1:30 to 2:30 pm – ***Building a Disaster Recovery Response*** with Tom Clareson, Senior Consultant for Digital & Preservation Services, Lyrasis.

2:30 to 2:45 pm – ***NJ Resources for Emergency Response*** with Dyani Feige, Preservation Specialist, Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts, Philadelphia.

2:45 to 3 pm – Break

3 to 4 pm – Breakout Sessions

Disaster Recovery with Dyani Feige; ***Building Local Networks*** with Tom Clareson; and ***Forming Relationships with Emergency Manager*** with Lori Foley and FEMA/NJOEM

4 to 4:30 pm – Report Out & Wrap Up

This New Jersey Collections Care Network program is presented by the New Jersey State Library and the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts, with generous funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Project partners are New Jersey State Archives, Newark Museum, New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey Historical Commission, and Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

A LOCAL HISTORY MYSTERY

Submitted By Elsalyn Palmisano, Consultant, Long Branch Free Public Library

In 1878, the ladies of the Reading Club at the Long Branch Library (before it was an official library) used this curious item. Current library staff cannot figure out what it is. If anyone has the answer, contact Elsalyn: epalmisa@monmouth.edu

Does your library have an usual item that you can't identify? Send a photo of it to *The Chronicle* to see if the H&P membership can solve the mystery.

NUTLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY 1914-2014

Celebrating 100 Years of Community, Creativity and Connectivity

By Jeanne Sylvester, Supervising Librarian and Centennial Committee Co-Chair

The Nutley Public Library is celebrating its centennial and has a year of special events, awards, contests and opportunities for the community. The library was funded with an Andrew Carnegie grant. The cornerstone was laid in 1913 and the library opened in August of 1914 with a collection of 3,000 books. Additions were made in 1942 and 1988 that complement the original historical structure. Today, the Nutley Public Library is 20,000 feet, with a collection of more than 95,000 items, active involvement in reciprocal borrowing, and an important part of the Nutley Community.

A committee was formed comprised of library staff, board members, and Friends of the Library as well as Directors and members of the Nutley Historical Society and Museum. The committee solicited submissions for a centennial logo by local graphic designers and the winning entry is displayed above.

The celebration kicked off in November 2013 at a recreation of the original cornerstone laying ceremony led by Nutley Masonic Lodge #25. Local legislators and library representatives spoke about the importance of the public library, and The Nutley Board of Commissioners declared 2014 **The Year of the Nutley Public Library**. Special events and opportunities throughout the year include concerts, student art contests, book sponsorships, multimedia presentations, a family picnic with old fashioned games, book discussions, and lectures, all culminating at a gala event to be held in the library in November.

The Nutley Historical Society and Museum has partnered with the Nutley Public Library to present a yearlong, rotating exhibition of Nutley artists and artifacts as part of the library's Centennial Celebration. Currently on view through June 30 is ***Artistic Treasures from the Collection of the Nutley Historical Society*** and ***Historical Treasures-The Amateur Circus: Photographs and Artifacts of the 1894 Red Cross Fundraiser***, with Annie Oakley, H.C. Bunner and Eaton Stone.

For more information, please visit http://nutleypubliclibrary.org/centennialcommittee.

A COMMEMORATION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

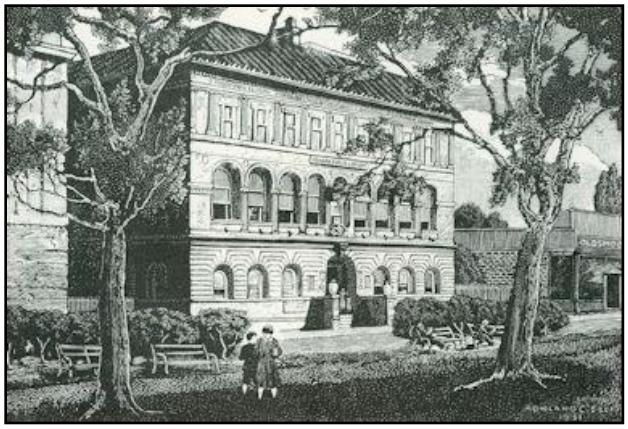
By Jane Seiden, Reference, Newark Public Library

The Newark Public Library is celebrating its 125th anniversary by highlighting its remarkable history and its dedication to the people of Newark with an exhibit of photographs and other historic materials on view through August 30. ***The Newark Public Library: 125 Years of Innovation and Service*** reflects on the Library's mission of service to the public even as it now strives to meet the demands of our 21st century customers.

In 1887, the citizens of Newark overwhelmingly approved by referendum the establishment of a free public library and in 1889 the Library opened on West Park Street near Broad Street with a collection of 10,000 books. The librarian, Frank P. Hill, introduced the concept of open stacks and demonstrated an awareness of changing community needs.

When the city's population increased, property was purchased at what is now 5 Washington Street where a larger library would be constructed for Newark's residents. The cornerstone of the four-story Italian Renaissance style building was laid in 1899 and the new Library was dedicated two years later. The prominent edifice features many striking architectural details both on its façade and throughout its interior.

The progressive and influential librarian John Cotton Dana assumed the directorship in 1902 and promoted education, business, and culture in the Library. He purchased books for the blind, established a system of interlibrary loans, and opened the first business library in the country in 1904.



Ellis, Rowland C. The Newark Public Library. Circa 1937. Wood engraving. From the Special Collections Division, The Newark Public Library.

Upon Dana's death in 1929, Beatrice Winser continued extension services. Library materials were delivered to the homebound and, in 1930, a book truck brought reading materials to children throughout Newark.

The Newark Public Library encouraged learning, hosted exhibits and musical programs, and introduced new services, research divisions, and branch libraries to meet changing needs. Significant initiatives during the 20th century included reading improvement classes, a radio show which discussed reference books, and a job information center.

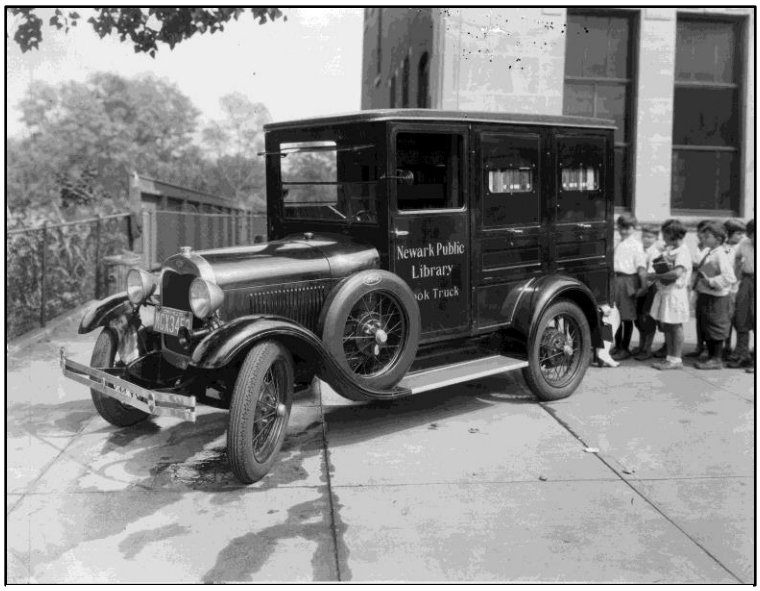
In 1963, the institution became a Federal Regional Depository for New Jersey. It has also served for many years as a Statewide Reference Center, providing research assistance to other libraries throughout New Jersey. Researchers can access unique collections held by the Library's specialized departments, most notably by the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center, the New

Newark Library 125 Years *(cont.)*

Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center, and the Special Collections Division.

Seven branch libraries: Branch Brook, Clinton, North End, Springfield, Vailsburg, Van Buren, and Weequahic continue as community anchors throughout the City of Newark.

Today, the Library hosts a range of enriching programs for its diverse population. The Library's celebrations of both Black History and Hispanic Heritage with music, dance, lectures, community discussions, and film are prime examples of the Library's extraordinary multicultural programming. Arts and crafts, SAT prep classes, college fairs, sign language classes, art exhibits, lectures, movies, and performances, are offered. Recently, grant funding has afforded the Library the opportunity to provide computer classes for all skill levels, with an emphasis on job search and career advancement. Special equipment in the Special Services room gives patrons with low vision access to reading materials. All events are listed on the Library's calendar, which is accessible at www.npl.org.



The Newark Public Library's book truck, 1930

Library Director Wilma J. Grey emphasizes that The Newark Public Library "will continue to promote reading, foster literacy, and offer all the traditional services that have held true for 125 years: books of all kinds, robust research materials, and first-rate reference assistance. And we will also use 21st century technology to improve our delivery of services, while expanding direct access to information and technology for our users."

The Newark Public Library: 125 Years of Innovation and Service, displays materials from the collections of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center and the Special Collections Division. Architectural drawings, photographs, and ephemera documenting the Library's history, services, and modernization will be on view. Arranged thematically by curator Nadine Sergejeff, Special Collections Librarian, the exhibit emphasizes the ways the institution continues its legacy and embraces opportunities for innovation to serve Newarkers.

This exhibit is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, administered by the Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs.

A reception will be held in the gallery on Monday, May 19 from 6 to 8 pm. Reservations are encouraged at rsvp@npl.org or 973-733-7793.

The exhibition will be on view in the Main Library's second floor gallery through August 30, 2014 during regular Library hours: Monday, Friday, and Saturday 9 am to 5:30 pm; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9 am to 8:30 pm (closed on Memorial Day, Independence Day, and every Sunday). For more information or to arrange a group tour, please call (973) 733-7779.

WHAT ELSE IS NEW?

Member Updates from Across New Jersey

Caldwell Public Library – submitted by Lynn Hotz, Librarian

In support of our ***Sharing our Stories*** MakerSpace grant, NPR's StoryCorps developed a special interviewing workshop which they presented here in March. The session provided tips on how to interview, use the recording equipment, edit interviews and share podcasts and documents online. Inspired by the workshop, we began conducting our first interviews with senior citizens in April. In May, local middle school student volunteers plan to do interviews of family members.

In April, we had a packed house for a celebration of the Caldwell Trolley. Local library benefactors Janet and Bob Markman unveiled their gift of a detailed replica of a trolley car that once traveled the number 29 line along Bloomfield Avenue. The model lights up, has tiny little people inside, and delights children of all ages. Tony Hall, founder of the North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society and editor of the "Trolley Lines" newsletter gave a fascinating talk on the history of the trolley and local residents shared memories of riding on the trolley in their youth. To accompany the celebration, we put up an online exhibit from our local history collection focusing on the Caldwell Trolley: https://cpllhc.omeka.net/exhibits/show/trolley/year.

Long Branch Free Public Library – submitted by Janet Birckhead, Senior Librarian

Baseball is the theme for April. From April 1 through April 26, there was an exhibit on Long Branch Speedways baseball team, a semi-professional team that was active in 1938. The Acerra Brothers [sic] baseball team, another semi-pro team from Long Branch, comprised of twelve brothers, who played from 1930 to the mid-1940s, will be the subject of a special program that is being co-sponsored with the Long Branch Historical Association. On Saturday, April 26, at 11 am, the Long Branch Free Public Library hosted Audrey Vernick, who spoke about her new children's book ***Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team***, which tells the story of the brothers.

Long Branch Free Public Library *(cont.)*

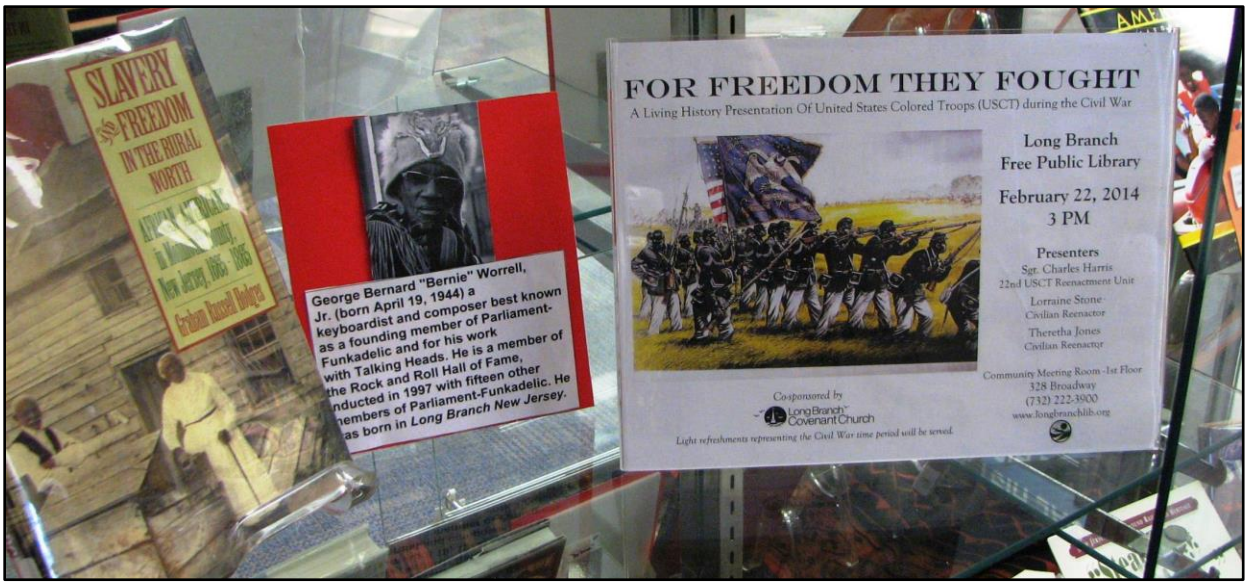
Following the Speedways baseball team exhibit in the Meeting Room, the library has mounted a special exhibit for Preservation Week. This exhibit will run for one week only, from April 28 through May 3. The library also hung an exhibit outside the Local History Room in April. Library Assistant Katey O'Connell is curating ***Poetry and Jazz in New Jersey***.

The Library will hold a Volunteer Recognition Ceremony from 6 to 7:30 pm on Wednesday, April 23. We honored 26 volunteers who served during the past three years, including seven who have worked on various local history projects. Special awards were given to three people who volunteered for five years and to three who have completed ten years of volunteer service.

Long Branch's Past Exhibits

During the month of January, the Library displayed an exhibit, ***Photographs from the Long Branch Newspaper Clipping Collection***. The Clipping Collection is one of the Library's special collections. It consists of clippings relating to Long Branch from local newspapers. Although it was begun in 2000, we are gradually adding older materials whenever our local history volunteers come across an interesting article on microfilm. This display was curated by Library Assistant Christine Crowder, who maintains the collection.

The Library put on an exhibit, ***African Americans in New Jersey*** during the month of February. Library Assistant Katey O'Connell, who curated the exhibit, typed up information on well-known African Americans from New Jersey, added a photograph, and mounted everything on an eye-catching red card. She filled in the rest of the case with books on African-American history. She also highlighted a special program, ***For Freedom They Fought***.



***Long Branch Free Public Library* (cont.)**

For Freedom They Fought, a living history program about the New Jersey soldiers serving in the United States Colored Troops during the Civil War, was held on February 22. This program was co-sponsored by the Long Branch Covenant Church. Two Civil War re-enactors, Sgt. Charles Harris, a member of Long Branch Covenant Church, and Corp. Brian Daniels, spoke about the experiences of African-American soldiers. They were accompanied by Lorraine Stone, as Harriet Tubman, and Teretha Jones, as Elizabeth Keckley, Mary Lincoln's dressmaker (photo on right). The two women spoke about the experiences of black women before and during the Civil War. The program was well attended. The presenters had so much material that the hour-and-a-half program could have run for three hours or been broken into two programs.

In March, the library put on an exhibit entitled ***Women in New Jersey*** (photo on left), curated by Library Assistant Katey O'Connell. Mixed in with photographs from Special Collections and books from the NJ Reference Collection were nursing items loaned by Fred Pachman, pamphlets and other materials loaned by Elsalyn Palmisano, and items on loan from the personal collections of Barbara Clark, Library Associate Lisa Kelly, and library staff member Janice Grace.

Millburn Free Public Library – submitted by Mike Banick, Director

In honor of New Jersey's 350th anniversary this year, the Millburn Free Public Library will be holding a year-long series of lectures and programs. Please see www.mfplib.org/nj350.htm for details. The series started on April 6th with Dr. Maxine Lurie's presentation, ***A History of the Garden State***. Upcoming programs include ***Strawberry Fields in NJ*** (Sat 5/17) and ***A History of the Jersey Shore*** (Sat 6/14). We have programs scheduled through late-November.

New Brunswick Free Public Library – submitted by Kim Adams, Archival Librarian

What Lies Beneath? What has been learned about New Brunswick's past from the archaeological studies undertaken for the Downtown area? How can we use archaeology to teach local history? In the fall of 2013, Rutgers University students set out to answer these questions and more. Come hear what they found out in this lively presentation led by Dr. Ian Burrow, RPA, Associate Professor in the Rutgers' Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies Program (CHAPS) and Vice President of Hunter Research. Monday, May 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Carl T. Valenti Community Room. This program is presented as part of the library's participation in the statewide NJ350 celebration.

Ocean County Library, Toms River Branch – submitted by Colleen Goode, Librarian

On Monday, May 19 at 7 pm, celebrate New Jersey's 350th year with author and Rutgers professor Dr. Michael Rockland as he walks us through New Jersey from 1664 – 2014 in ***New Jersey's Image and Events from 1664 – 2014***. Dr. Rockland's unique storytelling style outlines major events that have made New Jersey and its residents who they are today. Dr. Rockland has published numerous books about New Jersey; these will be available for purchase along with a book signing. Please register beginning on April 29 either by calling 732-349-6200 or visiting the Ocean County Library's website: http://engagedpatrons.org/EventsExtended.cfm?SiteID=2161&EventID=202012&PK=. Free parking is available in municipal parking after 6 pm.

Plainfield Public Library – submitted by Sarah Hull, Head of Local History

Our current exhibition, ***Notable Women of Plainfield***, is in honor of Women's History Month and NJ350. This library-wide display offers a glimpse into the lives of fourteen women who resided in (or near) Plainfield. The main display case features soprano and folklorist Dorothea Dix Lawrence (image on left) and her aunt photographer Reina Lawrence, using papers and photographs from the Dix-Lawrence Collection. The lobby flat case presents nine more outstanding women of Plainfield: photo-journalist Margaret Bourke-White; suffragist, Lillian Ford Fieckert; African-American educator Hazel Fields; engineer Lillian Gilbreth (Cheaper by the Dozen matriarch); WWII nurse and veteran Dorothy Krog Harper; doctor and educator Clemence Sophia Harned Lozier (the second women in New Jersey to obtain a medical degree); principal of Plainfield Seminary, Eliza Elvira Kenyon; WWII military test pilot and WASP, Ann Baumgartner Carl; and local volunteer and Library champion, Anne Louise Davis. Although they do not all have collections in the library, they have all accomplished great things.

The two display cases near the Reference Desk highlight local African-American civil rights activist Marjorie Patterson and WWII veteran Eleanor Olmstead Leiss (far right in photo on right). Both of whom have personal collections in our archive. Finally, the art display cases in the Reading Room area offer ceramic busts by world-famous African-American sculptor, Inge Hardison, who was honored in February at the 2014 National Conference of Artists at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Ms. Hardison was commissioned by the Old Taylor Distillery in 1967-68 to create a series of busts of noted African-American inventors and doctors for their *Ingenious Americans* promotion. Two sculptures from this series are on loan from Barbara Polk Riley, donor of the Barbara Polk Riley African American Book Collection, and a long-time library supporter and volunteer.

Plainfield Public Library *(cont.)*

In a slide lecture on May 3, Guest speaker Gary D. Saretzky will present ***Nineteenth-Century New Jersey Photographers: Union County***. Of the approximately 3,000 different photographers who were active in New Jersey before 1900, a substantial number worked in Union County. Mr. Saretzky will profile these pioneers, especially in Elizabeth, Rahway, and Plainfield, and discuss them within the larger context of New Jersey photography in the nineteenth century. Among the photographers to be featured are Alfred S. Campbell and Guillermo Thorn (photo on left from the Library's *Guillermo Thorn Historical Photograph Collection*).

Somerset County Library System – submitted by Ken Kaufman, New Jersey Librarian

The Rise and Fall of the Giant Airships

Warren Township Library - Tuesday, May 6 from 7 to 8:15 pm in Meeting Room 1

Mary Jacobs Library – Thursday, May 8 from 7 to 8:30 pm in Program Room

On May 6, 1937, the German passenger airship Hindenburg caught fire and was destroyed during its attempt to dock at the Lakehurst Naval Air Station in South Jersey. One hundred and twenty years before the Wright brothers' historic 1903 flight, mankind had already discovered a way to ascend into the atmosphere using lifting gases. Airplane development through the early 1930s produced remarkable aircraft with limited payload, range and comfort. But luxurious long distance and transatlantic air travel was still possible during this period by way of the airship. These giant airships were also used in warfare, polar exploration and weekly scheduled air service. The USS Los Angeles served the US Navy for 15 years. The German Graf Zeppelin sailed injury-free around the world for ten years. Their success, however, was continually overshadowed by tragedy: the loss of the Akron, Macon, R101, Hindenburg, and the mysterious disappearance of the French Dixmude and its entire crew of 55. The presentation will outline the story of these giant airships. They occupied a fascinating, but short-lived, side branch in the evolutionary tree of aviation. Guest Speaker: John Andrews from the New Jersey Astronomical Association.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Visit www.sclsnj.org

The Garden State: Where Ideas Grow

Mary Jacobs Library – Tuesday, May 13 from 7 to 8:30 pm

Band-Aids, movies, color television, bubble wrap, barcodes, graham crackers, M&Ms, and solar panels. What do all of these things have in common? They were all invented in the great state of New Jersey (not to mention the 1,093 patents issued to Thomas Alva Edison)! New Jersey is truly the land of inventions. Join author and historian Linda Barth to learn about the many inventions and innovations that came from the minds of Garden State people. Registration is suggested. Visit www.sclsnj.org

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY

Mary Jacobs Library - Somerset County Library System
May 8 – 7 to 8:30 pm / *The Rise and Fall of the Giant Airships*
May 13 – 7 to 8:30 pm / *The Garden State: Where Ideas Grow*

Millburn Free Public Library
May 17 / *Strawberry Fields in NJ*

New Brunswick Free Public Library
May 12 – 6:30 to 8:30 pm / *Archaeology in New Brunswick: Past, Present, and Future*

Nutley Public Library
May 13 – 7 pm / *The History of the Nutley Public Library.* Nutley Museum Director John Simko will speak about the development and history of the Nutley Free Public Library.

Plainfield Public Library
May 3 – 10:30 am to 12:30 pm / Gary Saretsky : *Nineteenth-Century New Jersey Photographers: Union County*
May 8 – 10:30 am to 12 pm / Memoir Writing Club meeting

Warren Township Library
May 6 – 7 to 8:15 pm / *The Rise and Fall of the Giant Airships*

JUNE – NJLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JUNE 2-4 / H&P SECTION MEETING ON JUNE 2

Millburn Free Public Library
June 14 / *A History of the Jersey Shore*

Nutley Public Library
June 14 – 2 pm / *The Metropolitan Opera of 1914.* The Allegro Singers, with Inna Leytush on piano, perform timeless opera arias sung at the Metropolitan Opera House in 1914.

Plainfield Public Library
June 12 – 10:30 am to 12 pm / Memoir Writing Club meeting

JULY

Plainfield Public Library
July 14 – 10:30 am to 12 pm / Memoir Writing Club meeting

New Jersey Collections Care Network at Monmouth University
July 30 – 9 am / *Cultural Institutions & Emergency Management: Partners in Disaster Response & Recovery*