



Volume 8
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THE BOOKMARK

Oradell Public Library

Fall, 2015 Newsletter



Youth Department Librarian

Have you met our newest acquisition?

Come visit the Junior Room and meet Oradell's ActivTable! With the money raised from the School of Fish fundraiser in 2014 earmarked for technology and educational initiatives, we have been slowly adding much needed items to the library, and are now able to focus on items that allow our children to experiment, play, and learn.

The ActivTable is a touchscreen, collaborative table that allows up to 6 children to play games and work on activities. Even though the core age group is PreK through 5th grade, we are finding many of our older students are, not only having fun with the (yes, educational!) games, but have taken a lead role in helping us set up the table, maintain it, and customize the table. One of the best parts? They are learning how to think about what is safe and appropriate for the library and the younger children.

The ActivTable is our largest and most visible initiative to date, but not our only purchase. We purchased a new iPad, as our old one was severely outdated and unusable. The iPad is used in everything from bringing interactivity to our Storytime, aiding our staff with collection



development, teaching our patrons how to use our many new digital resources, and "appvisory" (exploring apps to recommend). Future initiatives with the iPad down the road include exciting makerspace programming, such as, having the children create their own stop animation films.

While not as exciting a technology advance as the ActivTable, we have also purchased two sets of new toys. The first group is sensory-based toys that come out for our Baby & Me Playdates and Storytimes. They are designed to stimulate our

youngest patrons, allowing for healthy growth and development. The second group of toys are designed for ages 2 through 7 and encourage building, creating, and experimenting with physics. These made their debut earlier in the year when we hosted NJ Makers Day and have since come out for special events and Jr. Maker Playground programs.

In addition to these items we have already been using, we plan to circulate Electronic Snap Circuits and MaKey MaKeys. MaKey Makeys will allow children to learn basic programming and the Snap Circuits teach electronic circuitry. Families will be able to borrow them for one week.

Next up, sewing machines, an iMac station + scanner fully loaded with Garage Band and the Photoshop Suite, a Creativity Station Computer, and more.

The funding from School of Fish was to go towards our Makerspace, a designated space or series of programming that allows people to come together and create. Makerspaces are intended to be a collaboration within the community. There is

a lot that still has to come together, but as with all things, community support and involvement is one of the best ways to move things forward. It helps fill gaps with the funding we receive. We will need volunteers to help support the equipment and purchases with cleaning and processing; we can always use computer-oriented volunteers to help set up the new ones we are purchasing; we could use people to assist with marketing and outreach; we could use people to help train others to use some of the equipment or lead classes, such as sewing and using other high tech crafting items. If you are interested and are in a position to volunteer your time, please email me an robin.rockman@oradell.bccls.org.

We are a small library with limited manpower, all of us handling the jobs of many, often doing so on a limited, part-time schedule. But when we work together, we become so much greater than the individual parts and we make Oradell shine, firmly being the best town for families and making the library a true community space.

Robin Rockman, Youth Services Librarian

Local History Room

Several very exciting things have happened in the local history room that are worthy of mentioning.

The first is the continued acquisition of Charles Livingston Bull illustrated books. The collection now numbers nearly 130. Unfortunately, there is no known bibliography for illustrators, so it is hard to know if the collection is complete or not. However, every plausible lead that your Archivist has been able to collect has been tracked down (over 70), and we now either have a book he illustrated or know for a fact that he did not illustrate it. There are only eight books about which questions remain.

It is more than likely then that your local History Room contains the finest collection of Bull-illustrated books in the country.

And, at long last, we are beginning to catalog all the Bull illustrations used in magazines. The Local History Room has 356 magazines with works by Mr. Bull in them. The illustration might be a cover, in an article, or in an ad. It is without question the largest and finest collection of his magazine contribution in the country.

I say the cataloging has come “at long last” because there have been many somewhat urgent cataloging chores to do, and the work on magazines just had to wait. Now, however, thanks to the continued efforts of Ms. Savannah DiGiovanni, we are getting the work done.

Savannah came to volunteer last year, worked right through the spring, and continued on through the summer. She is in her senior year at Dwight Englewood School, but is still coming in on Saturdays to help out. Much of the progress made this last spring and summer is due to her continued devotion to the job.



In addition to the work on the Bull collection, the Local History Room acquired a number of class pictures from Oradell Public School, as well as yearbooks from the Middle and High Schools.

The recent acquisition of two of Helen Chapin’s personal journals was very exciting, in as much as both contain a number of carefully labeled photographs of family and friends. ■

George Carter, Borough Historian/Archivist

Adult Programs

We had a sensational summer at the Oradell Library.

We were entertained by Chito Dakay and his guitar who gave us a wonderful opportunity to sing along.

The Audubon Society told us how to have a healthy backyard.

The Sierra Club alerted us how to handle bears.

Shakespeare also appeared for his annual performance, this time putting on *Romeo and Juliet*. We were a little worried about all those swords, but we made it.

The highlight of the summer was our annual performance from Verismo Opera featuring Lucine Amara of the Metropolitan Opera. We were moved by all of the performers, but were thrilled by Jose Hertaído’s rendition of Puccini’s “Nessum Dorma” from *Turandot*.

For our final performance of the summer season we joined with several cities across the country to come together and celebrate the legacy and poetry of the Beat Poets. We enjoyed poetry and music from ten illustrious presenters including our director, John J. Trause, Mary Margaret Carter and Dianne Daniele. Mrs. Carter relayed her story of going to college with the wife of LeRoy Jones/ Amiri Baraka, who was at one time the Poet Laureate of New Jersey. Dianne Daniele read an essay declaiming the lack of women poets in the Beat Generation.

September was a quiet month for programs at the library but October promises to entertain and enrich us. Our first program for October was the Seton Hall University’s FINRA program, which offers free advice and information helping us protect our investments. This Law School group just won a major case involving a local hedge fund.

On Monday October 19th we got a little more serious and tackled one of the nagging problems in America today.....mental health. The New Jersey Mental Health Players is a highly successful, interactive community education program. It is the longest running program of its type in the state. Volunteers are trained to depict realistic scenarios involving mental health issues. These presentations provide audiences with a dynamic way to receive basic education about mental illness and become sensitized to the stigma that is often associated with having mental health challenges.

Columbus Day was celebrated on Tuesday the 20th with Maria Laurino, the author of “*The History of Italian Americans*”. This exciting book is a companion to the PBS documentary series. She is also the author of “*The Memoirs Old World Daughter, New World Mother*” and the national bestseller, “*Were You Always an Italian.*”

Oradell resident, Stewart Schneider will give a presentation on October 27 about the chilling and thrilling aspects of cemeteries. ■

Dianne Daniele, Program Chair

Director's Corner

In case you missed it...

We at Oradell Public Library have heard your voice and worked with the Oradell Mayor and Council to provide funding for library service on Sundays from 1 p. m. to 5 p. m., which started on Sunday, September 20, 2015, our reopening on Sundays after nearly six years.

Library Director John J. Trause and the Library Board of Trustees were delighted to invite the public to the Library for our **Grand Sunday Opening** on **Sunday, September 20, 2015 1 - 5 p. m.**

Despite the bright sunny day and competing attractions around town and in the environs, we were pleased to greet about 375 visitors to the Library, many of whom we know will become regular Sunday patrons.

Amid the excitement, Library staff, Trustees, Oradell Public Library Foundation members, and the Friends of the Library served ice cream in "Make Your Own Sundae". Thanks go to Carol Blakeslee, School Liaison on the Library Board, for this very clever idea. The ice cream proved most popular, and we thank the Friends of the Library for coordinating the double scoop (North Reading Room and Junior Room).

I gave a short speech thanking Mayor Murray and the Borough Council, some of whom were on hand for the celebration, for the additional funding that made Sunday hours possible. We hope the commitment for this increased funding continues into 2016 and beyond. As always, I expressed my thanks to the public and all the supporters of the Library, including our exceptional staff, for their work in advocating on behalf of the Library. Library Board President Sheila Sterling and Elaine Franek Materon, President of the Friends, added their voices to the gratitude and call for further support.

We were pleased to provide light musical entertainment from Oradell's own Chito Dakay on the first floor. Everyone agreed that his renditions of James Taylor songs, other singer-songwriter offerings, and contemporary tunes were the perfect background and foreground of the day's events. Fans of Chito Dakay got to hear him more than in his annual summer concert for the Library, sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

The Junior Room was bursting with excitement as the kids and their parents and guardians gathered for the "Cooler Than Cool" storytime and craft followed by the ice cream.

Besides all of this, we were pleased to offer to our casual visitors the full range of library collections and services, including signing up new visitors for library cards in observance of Library Card Signup Month, which happened to be September.

Remember too that the Library is now open on Saturdays from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. We look forward to serving you seven days a week! ■

John J. Trause, Library Director

Information Services Librarian

BCCLS Libraries offer their patrons free access to a number of online databases that are helpful to job seekers, students and/or anyone interested in furthering their knowledge on a variety of topics.

I would like to highlight just a few of the many databases available.

Job and Career Accelerator - offers guidance and resources to help you explore occupations, find jobs and internships, build resumes and cover letters as well as prepare for interviews. In addition, this database offers video course tutorials that teach basic (and also often at intermediate and advanced skill level) a number of software applications such as Microsoft Excel, Access, Publisher, Word and Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

ReferenceUSA – This database has amazing tools that can help job-seekers, job changers, small business owners and market researchers. Furthermore, this database allows you to search their U.S. White Pages, which currently, has 89 million residents listed. You can also search their U.S. Healthcare section which lists 855,000 Physicians and Dentists. This database has helpful tutorials that show step by step instructions on how to navigate their database. You can also view a number of helpful videos on YouTube. Search for ReferenceUSA at youtube.com or use the youtube app.

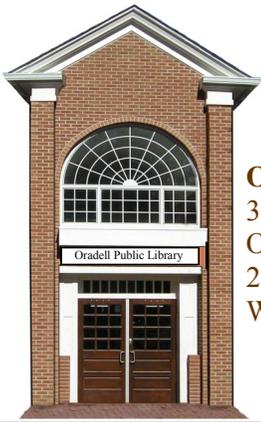
Business Source Elite – This database provides searchable full text articles of over 1,000 business publications including Consumer Reports and the Consumer Reports Buying Guides. Yes, you read that right. By using your library card number, you have free access to digital and printable copies of Consumer Reports articles.

Novelist and Novelist K-8 – This database offers its users reading recommendations and books reviews for fiction. Novelist has an adult focus. Novelist K-8 focuses more on preschool through teen fiction reading recommendations, with some non-fiction titles. It's a fun site to browse and you just might find your perfect read.

You can access the above databases by going to the library's website, clicking on e-resources, clicking on databases, then scrolling down and clicking on Jerseyclicks. Once at the Jerseyclicks site, if you are not at the library, you will need to enter your library card number.

As always, if you have any questions or need further assistance with locating or using library materials, resources and/or services, please do not hesitate to call (201) 262-2613, ext. 110), email (linda.pabian@oradell.bccls.org) or just speak with me at the library. ■

Linda Pabian, Information Services Librarian



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Fall/Winter Library Hours	
Monday – Wednesday	
Adult room	10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Junior room	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday – Saturday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Friends of the Library host a legend: Lucine Amara

Lucine Amara was born in Hartford, Connecticut of Armenian heritage. She was raised in San Francisco where she studied at the San Francisco Community Music School under Stella Eisner-Eyn and sang in the chorus of the San Francisco Opera, 1945-46. In 1946 Ms. Amara made her concert debut at the War Memorial Opera House. She later went on to perform at the Hollywood Bowl and San Francisco Symphony, Ms. Amara appeared in the title role of *Ariadne auf Naxos* and as Lacy Billows in Britten's *Albert Herring* in 1949.

Ms. Amara made her Metropolitan Opera debut as the Voice From Heaven: in Verdi's *Don Carlos* in the opening night of Sir Rudolph Bing's inaugural season as general manager. She continued at the Met over a course of 41 seasons until 1991, singing 56 roles in 882 appearances, nearly 60 of which were broadcast on radio and television. Appearing regularly as Micaela in *Carmen*, Cio-Cio san In *Madama Butterfly*, and Tatiana in *Eugene Onegin*, Antonia in *Tales of Hoffmann*, Donna Evira in *Don Giovanni* and Aida.

She also performed and thrilled audiences in Europe, Asia and South America but she is now firmly rooted in the Metropolitan cultural scene. She is the Artistic Director of the Verismo Opera of New Jersey and still performs locally. She uses her background and expertise to coach new talent. She loves to work with young

people, to bring them along. She teaches master classes and works with students to make them ready for vocal competitions.

She has been described by the New York Times as the "greatest lyric soprano of our time" and she can be seen again.....hopefully again ..at the Oradell Library.

She has appeared several times at our lovely library and she keeps coming back as she is drawn to the atmosphere in our reference rooms and to our appreciative audiences. Whenever we have time for questions she regales us with stories from her illustrious past. Refreshment time is also a great opportunity for our audience to speak with her personally and remember all her great performances from around the world.



And yes, if you visit the Metropolitan Opera, during intermission look at the photographs of the great performers at the Met, and there, in alphabetical order, look up and see our favorite opera star, Lucine Amara. If that is not possible, come to see and hear her perform at our next Opera Evening at the Oradell Library.