The collection of books in Oradell’s Local History Room by Oradell authors has increased significantly recently due to two important additions.

The first gift came from Jon Crump, grandson of J. Irving Crump, and consisted of 30 books all written, ghost written, or enabled by his grandfather. Let me explain.

Mr. Crump wrote a large number of books under two banner titles. One started with “Our”, and then went on to elaborate, such as Our Airliners, Our Army Engineers, Our G-Men, Our Movie Makers, etc. Ten more of this series have been added, with some duplicates, of course.

A second series of books went under the main title of “Boy’s Book of”, and includes such titles as Boy’s Book of Airmen, Boy’s Book of Coast Guards, Boy’s Book of Firemen, Boy’s Book of Forest Rangers, etc. Eight more volumes in this series have been added to the collection.

Not previously in the collection were books by William James. It turns out that Mr. Crump wrote a series of books using that pen name, and now we have three of those books. Efforts will be made to find more of them.

Of the additional books, one has no reference as to who is the author. However, Mr. Crump, the grandson, is sure that his grandfather wrote it, and that it may be, in fact, very close to an autobiography. I am sure that reading it will prove interesting.

And finally, one of the books was written by a native American, but again, probably with a strong influence from Mr. Crump.

Mr. Crump loved to write about many things, producing over 100 books in his lifetime. He also liked to write in different places. Here’s a picture of him in his summer camp along the banks of the Hackensack River, with his son Jim, keeping him company. His typewriter is right on the table, ready to go.

Mr. Crump loved the Oradell Library, serving as a Trustee for several decades. He was the editor of Boy’s Life, the Scouting magazine for decades. In brief, J. Irving Crump was a significant presence in the cultural and literary life of Oradell. Mr. Crump lived at the corner of Lotus and Seminole.

Another major contributor to the Oradell Local History book collection is Mrs. Sally Isaacs, who happily still abides with us here in Oradell. Mrs. Isaacs is a writer of children’s books, and, like Mr. Crump, has three important themed series, all of which are in the circulating collection of the library, as well as being preserved in the Local History Room.

“America in the Time of…” contains nine books covering such subjects as Columbus, George Washington, Sitting Bull, etc.

The second series of 12 books starts with “Life in…”, covering such subjects as a Colonial Town, a Hopi Village, the Dust Bowl, etc.

Finally, Mrs. Isaacs wrote eight books about “The American Adventure—…”, The Gold Rush, The Oregon Trail, The Trail of Tears.

Three of the new books are Stagecoaches and Rail Roads, The Civil War, and Colonists and Independence. The Local History Room is pleased to have all of Mrs. Isaacs’ material in its collection, and currently on display in the stairwell case.
Local History, cont.

Looking back at last year for a moment, it is fitting to bring the 100th celebratory year of the birth of our library to a close with a brief recap of the absolutely delightful Wine and Cheese Tasting party put on by an energetic group of volunteers. Some of the money raised was donated to the Library Foundation that had recently made a generous donation to pay for the upgrading and updating of the lighting in the Youth Department, and in several other areas of the library.

The group had been able to collect over 100 donations in the form of gift baskets, gift certificates, bottles of wine, and more, to be able to offer 100 prizes. These were sold at the main circulation desk as a “100 Cork Sale”. People saw the enticing arrangement of gifts as they entered the library, and it was gratifying that the most expensive gifts were the first ones sold.

The food came from many sources, and was uniformly delicious. Service was excellent, and The Wine & Roses store provided plenty of wine for wine tasting. In addition, the committee had ordered special wine glasses with the library logo embossed on each, and these were a fitting memento of a fun evening.

The event drew several hundred guests, who began to arrive around 5:30, and lingered well past closing time. It was just too grand an event to leave.

Many pictures were taken, but not nearly enough to capture the broad scope of the festivities. In any case, those taken, plus an abundance of related material can be found in the Oradell Local History Room under catalog number 60.7

Incidentally, that catalog number has been reserved for all special library events, such as the 90th birthday party in 2003, the formal 100th anniversary birthday party on April 23, 2013, and the Fourth of July parade at which the Oradell Public Library was the Grand Marshall.

George Carter, Borough Archivist/Historian

Director’s Corner

As you may know, Oradell Public Library has started a new film discussion group, modeled on our two successful book discussion groups, the Morning Book Club and the Evening Book Club.

The IFC (Independent * Foreign * Classic) Film Club meets on fourth Mondays of the month at 7 p.m., and I look forward to this new program each month as a highlight in the Library’s busy schedule of programs and events. I am so pleased to serve as the co-moderator of our IFC Film Club with Dianne Daniele of the Friends of the Library, because it is a pleasure to help lead the group and engage in the in-depth discussions of various films and film history.

At the first meeting on Monday, January 27, 2014 we met to discuss Chinatown (1974), celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2014. The moral ambiguities in this film led to our selection of the following month’s film.

At the second meeting on Monday, February 24, 2014 the group discussed Monsieur Verdoux (1947), a surprising classic film by Charlie Chaplin. Session participants helped decide what independent, foreign, or classic films they would like to choose to discuss, and we came up with another intriguing film that presents so much to talk about.

The film chosen for the next session on Monday, March 24, 2014 is Vertigo (1958), one of Alfred Hitchcock's most beautiful and complex films.

Those interested in attending and participating are asked to watch the film on their own before the first session. Copies of this film are available in the BCCLS catalog (www.bccls.org) in both DVD and Blu-ray formats. The Library is ordering copies in advance for participants.

The IFC Book Club is open to all and is free. Please join us! This is also an opportunity to help decide with your fellow cineastes (film buffs) what independent, foreign, or classic films you would like to choose to discuss.

Aside from this exciting new opportunity to enjoy your favorite films in a new way, we offer many other services, materials, and exhibitions, so please come to the Library soon.

Here is just a selection of what we have planned:

- Spanish Conversations 1, 2, and 3 classes; Spanish 1&2, Wed. 11:00 am—12:00 noon. Spanish 3, noon—1:00 pm.

- The Elizabethans (Williams College) Concert. Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 2 p.m. North Reading Room.

- Walter Choroszeswski and New Jersey Timeline program for 350th Anniversary of the State of New Jersey. Monday, March 31, 2014 at 7 p.m. North Reading Room and Junior Room. For now check out the book display on New Jersey’s 350th Anniversary: “Celebrate Your State!”

- Susanna Rich (Shakespeare’s birthday and baseball songs). Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at 7 p.m. South Reading Room.

John J. Trause, Director
A 20-30 minute Storytime takes a good several hours to prepare – more when we need to create new visuals for the flannelboard or prepping a craft. There is a lot of thought and work and planning that goes into each Storytime, even when it seems like most of the songs and rhymes are repetitive ones that we use frequently. The pacing and placement is like making the perfect music playlist. The majority of what we do in Storytime is backed up by research on early literacy best practices, yet there is a lot of customization that comes into play based on the children that attend.

A lot of the planning time is spent browsing other librarians’ blogs, Pinterest, and reviews of books for new ideas. I am also active with no less than 7 librarian groups on Facebook, three of which are focused only on Storytime and result in the constant sharing of ideas, materials. Pinterest is also a fan favorite of youth services librarian and educators. What did we do before the internet??

Some of my favorite books are not Storytime books. They are excellent for one-on-one reading, but try as I might, they just won’t work in a group setting. Similarly, some of my favorite picture books have a more sophisticated humor that works better with school-age children. Some require time spent with the pictures to really pick up on sub-stories or sight gags.

When we have special Storytimes, we often ask for the ages of the children when signing up so that we can customize books and materials appropriately. I have been known to change things at the very last minute based on the demographic or personally knowing the children and what will work and what won’t work. I often practice songs, actions, rhymes, and finger play in my office, as well as exaggerated reading of some of the positional books. I try to do it when no one is around, but I sometimes get caught by cute, little faces peering in. I am sure I look pretty silly!

While we rarely repeat books in Storytime, as we focus on exposing new books to the children, repetitive reading of the same book increases the chance that the child will want to read the book on their own. If the copy of a book we used in Storytime is not available to check out at that time, and you or your child have an interest in reading it again, ask us to place a loan request. We are more than happy to do so.

Storytime is an exercise in sitting and listening, yet active participation is highly encouraged. I absolutely welcome children to sound out the words or to repeat repetitive phrases. I love that kind of “talking” throughout Storytime!

While excessive talking among the adults during Storytime can be a distraction for both myself and the children, nothing makes me happier than hearing parents and caretakers come to Storytime and leave with new contacts and future play dates. Come early and linger after. The library is meant to be more than just a stop on a laundry list of errands; it is a community place.

Can’t make Storytime? Just by bringing your children to the library, reading to them often and with passion, and letting them select the books based on what appeals to them are some of the many ways you can develop early literacy skills and a love for reading.

Robin Rockman, Youth Department Librarian
Library Hours:
Monday – Wednesday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday Closed

Postal Customer Local
Oradell, NJ 07649

The Friends of the Library

THE TIME HAS COME !!

We need you and your support. The Spring membership drive is already in progress. Please give serious consideration to the letter you just received, and help us continue to be a major asset to the library.

REMEMBER!

The Friends pay for the Museum passes you can get for FREE from your library. They open the doors to over 10 museums in the area.

The Friends pay for all the adult entertainers who appear regularly at our library. Your donation helps us pay for these programs.

The Friends are funding all the activities in the Youth Department, and have even instituted a special level of gift giving that directly supports the children who enjoy our library.

Please answer our appeal as soon as possible.

One of our very active members who you should get to know is Amy Syracuse, seen here with her son at the Museum of Natural History. Amy is an absolute dynamo, taking on such challenging jobs as working on the Wine and Cheese tasting event last fall, gathering many of the gifts offered through the “Cork Sale”, and working with great diligence on selecting the best museums for our Museum Pass program, as well as serving as the newest Trustee on the Library Board.

Being a mother of young children, Amy has a great deal of interest in gaining support for the many programs that Robin Rockman puts on. Please, don't let her down. Respond now!!

George Carter
Secretary/Treasurer

Library Meetings
Board of Trustee, Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., Lower Level Room
Friends of the Library, First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., Youth Department