



Violet's Porch

August/September 2014

From the Director's Desk: *Digitizing local history*

Although historians frequently include him among America's greatest Presidents, Theodore Roosevelt does not have a Presidential Library. George Washington, John Addams, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln don't have a library either.

Dickinson State University in Dickinson, North Dakota saw this as an opportunity, and began a project that has become the Theodore Roosevelt Center. Their mission is to create "a presidential digital library that will serve as a repository for all Roosevelt-related documents, photographs, and ephemera, providing instant access via the Inter-

net in a well-organized, comprehensible manner."

The folk at the Theodore Roosevelt Center are doing this through volunteers. Anyone who has a computer, an Internet connection, and some patience can join in the Center's efforts to digitally describe and organize their collections.

Recently, in the context of the library's next strategic plan, I proposed to the library Board of Trustees that the library work in partnership with the Jefferson Township Historical Society to create a digital local history collection for Jefferson.



Just like the Theodore Roosevelt Center, the biggest task would be to assemble and train volunteers to digitize, and then describe and organize, , and ephemera" relating to the history of Jefferson Township.

While presently this is an idea I am exploring, I'd be interested in hearing your thought about this project.

www.jeffersonlibrary.net

VISIT OUR WEB SITE FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS.



Swingin' at the Library

Trumpeter TH Kieren brings his *Jefferson Jazz-Swing Sextet* to the library on Saturday, September 27th at 7 PM. (Doors open at 6:30 PM.)

from the jazz/swing era — some of the best music America has to offer (and you can understand the words!)

Come in and enjoy a musical evening featuring American popular standards

You're invited to stay for socializing and refreshments after the show.



New DVDs

Annie

The Book Thief

Closed Circuit

The Counselor

The Grand Budapest Hotel

Her

Jack Ryan

Lone Survivor

Major Crimes

Non-Stop

Out of the Furnace

Pompeii

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty

Three Days to Kill



The Tropics in New York

by Claude McKay (1890-1948)

Bananas ripe and green, and gingerroot,
Cocoa in pods and alligator pears,
And tangerines and mangoes and grapefruit,
Fit for the highest prize at parish fairs,

Set in the window, bringing memories
Of fruit trees laden by low-singing rills,
And dewy dawns, and mystical blue skies
In benediction over nunlike hills.

My eyes grew dim, and I could no more gaze;
A wave of longing through my body swept,
And, hungry for the old, familiar ways,
I turned aside and bowed my head and wept.

Book Group Celebrates 10 Years

The library's **Cover to Cover Book Group** is celebrating its 10th anniversary in September. The group was established in 2004, and is facilitated by Librarian Christine O'Brien. Many of the original members are still active in the group.

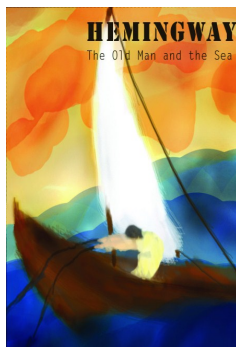
112 novels — ranging from classics and contemporary best-sellers to historical fiction and mysteries — have been read since the group's inception.

Members come to the meeting with their questions and comments, and Ms. O'Brien highlights basic themes and ideas. The discussions are unstructured and far-reaching, and always give readers a better, deeper understanding and appreciation of the book.

In 2006, the group began rating books on a scale of 1 to 10. Visit the library website for a list of books and ratings, and see our yearly favorites at right. →

2006—*Sea Glass* by Anita Shreve
2007—*The Gift* by Pete Hamill
2008—*Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See
2009—*Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen
2010—*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shepart, and *The Uncommon Reader* by Alan Bennett (a tie)
2011—*My Antonia* by Willa Cather
2012—*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and *The Cellist of Sarajevo* by Steven Galloway (a tie)
2013—*Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert

Classic Corner: *The Old Man and the Sea*



The ultimate big fish story, *The Old Man and the Sea* is classic Ernest Hemingway, though it is considerably shorter than his usual big hunt tales.

Experience the simple plot line (old man meets fish), the simple characters (old man, fish, sea), the simple and short sentences Hemingway is famous for, and the great hunter theme that sepa-

rates the men from the boys. Feel the tension of the old man testing his physical stamina and will against nature on page after page.

This book is an efficient way both to taste Hemingway and to get a good fish story. And if it's just a bit too brief, try one of Hemingway's other classics *A Farewell to Arms* or *The Sun Also Rises*.

Ex-Libris: Found Art From a Public Library



A selection of works by mixed media artist Alice Walsh will be on display in the library during the month of August. The exhibition is entitled *Ex-Libris: Found Art From a Public Library*.

The show consists of mixed media collage, assemblage and items made from discarded library catalog cards from a public library. It includes work on themes such as women's suffrage, assimilation, and freedom of speech, in addition to whimsical works. A study guide accompanies the exhibition.

Alice lives and works in Carmel, New York. Works from her *Ex Libris: Found Art From a Public Library* series has been exhibited in various states throughout the U.S. and in Europe. Come see her unique art during the month of August.

TAMING YOUR TABLET COMPUTER

Free computer classes in September

Friday mornings at 9:30 AM (9/5, 9/12 & 9/19)

Monday evenings at 7:30 PM (9/22, 9/29, 10/6)

2014 Scholarship Winners

Two scholarships are awarded each year by the Library Board of Trustees, the *Jeanne Craig Scholarship* and the *Rose Lange Scholarship*. The winners this year are Danielle Benulis and Gina Laganella.

Both student recipients graduated from Jefferson Township High School in June. "If I wanted to make the world around me come to life, says Gina, I would go to the library." She'll be attending Quinnipiac University in the fall. Danielle believes "the ser-

vices of the library provide students and all community members with the opportunity to grow." Danielle plans to study business, with a major in marketing.

The Trustees selected both recipients on the strength of the essays they submitted. They both wrote about the role the library played in their personal and educational growth.

Both recipients are wished the best of luck in their future endeavors!

Things to Do ...

August 5—*Healthy Eating is Easier Than You Think* (7 PM)

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August 6—*Art History for Travelers: France* (7 PM)

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August 8—*Teen Night Yoga Flow* (& August 15 at 6 PM)

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August 11—*Art with Miss Mary, Grades 5 and up* (11 AM)

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August 13—*A Taste of Poetry: Memories*

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August 18—*Summer Stories for Ages 4+* (11 AM)

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August 20—*The ABCs of DNA* (7 PM)

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August 21—*Sherlock Holmes: The Final Problem* (7 PM)

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Sept. 17—*Agatha Christie Tea & Film* (6:30 PM)

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Sept. 23—*Stress Management* (7 PM)



Jefferson Township Public Library
1031 Weldon Road
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438
973-208-6244
www.jeffersonlibrary.net

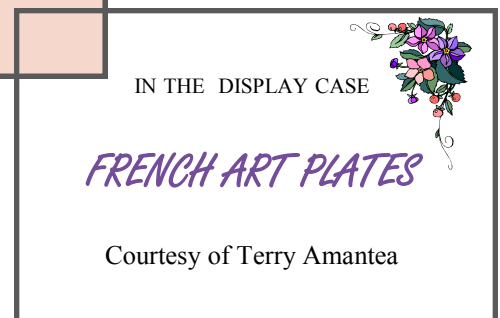
Library Director
Seth Stephens
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Hours
Monday-Friday 9:30 to 9
Saturday 9:30 to 6
Sunday 1 to 5

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The Library of Jefferson Township
is a sound public investment that exists
to improve the lives of residents through
self-education, recreation and
the exchange of ideas.



5 Good Novels for Book Groups

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC LIBRARY

- *The Cove* by Ron Rash
(Southern Gothic)
- *Longbourn* by Jo Baker
(Literary)
- *The Daring Ladies of Lowell*
by Kate Alcott (Historical)
- *The Outcasts* by Kathleen
Kent (Western)
- *The Museum of Extraordinary
Things* by Alice Hoffman
(Magical Realism)

