

# The Chronicle



NEWJERSEY  
Library Association

*The Newsletter of the History & Preservation Section of the NJLA*

Winter 2021

Volume 22, Number 2

## 2020-2021 H&P Section Executive Board

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To submit articles, news or calendar events to *The Chronicle*, email Colleen Goode, at

[cgoode@theoceancountylibrary.org](mailto:cgoode@theoceancountylibrary.org)

If possible, please include images with captions/attribution.

**The submission deadline for the next issue is April 23, 2021**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

By Ken Kaufman, Section President

I hope 2021 has started out well for you. Though we are still in transition, I am optimistic that it will be a constructive year for H&P efforts.

Our first general meeting in December was well attended with good discussion. While it was inspiring to see the exemplary effort in producing our conference proposals, it was also important to recognize the difficult environment for planning professional development events for other dates. The most encouraging aspect of the meeting, however, was hearing about the ongoing activities at member organizations. A special thanks to Michael Andrec of the Ukrainian History and Education Center, who presented on techniques he uses to bring his archives to a virtual audience.

We recently received the fabulous news that all five of our proposals were accepted for the 2021 Annual Conference. I cannot thank Beth Zak-Cohen enough for her work in coordinating the effort. This job is challenging any year, and Beth, as an appointed VP, had a shorter than usual time frame to complete the task. I also want to recognize Tom Ankner, who was a wellspring for many of our ideas. We have much to look forward to at the conference, which is scheduled for June 3rd and 4th.

I am planning with Tara Maharjan a joint H&P and MARAC NJ caucus **virtual meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:30 – 3 pm**. In the meantime, we will be discussing projects related to the NJLA archives and history webpage, as well as the links

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section of the H&P webpage. In addition, we have the customary work of preparing the election slate for next session, updating the bylaws, and selecting the next Susan Swartzburg Award recipient. Much constructive work lies ahead of us for sure. I look forward to tackling this with you!

## H&P @ NJLA: CONFERENCE UPDATE

Submitted by Beth Zak-Cohen, Newark Public Library

We are pleased to announce that all five panels submitted by the H&P section for the 2021 NJLA Conference have been accepted. The theme of this year's conference is **"All In: Accessibility, Equity and Inclusiveness."** It will take place June 3-4, 2021 and will likely be virtual, though the decision is not yet official (exact panel times are thus not yet available).

The first H&P panel is called, **"Is It All in the Archive? Web Archiving Tools: Tips and Challenges."** John Beekman, New Jersey Room, Jersey City Free Public Library, organized this panel with the goal to explore web archiving tools, such as Archive-It and Webrecorder, which some of us have struggled with. Speakers are Jacquelyn Oshman, Senior Librarian at New Brunswick Public Library, and Elizabeth M. Scott, MLS, CA, Archivist & Special Collections Librarian at Kemp Library, East Stroudsburg University. John Beekman will moderate.

The second panel is called **"Documenting the Neglected: Archival Collecting for Underserved Communities."** Tom Ankner, Director, Charles F. Cummings NJ Information Center, Newark Public Library, organized this panel to explore how archivists and librarians collect material on underserved communities. Speakers will be Yesenia Lopez, Director, the New Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center, Newark Public Library; Mimi Lee, Diversity & Literacy Consultant, New Jersey

State Library; and Iveta Pirgova, Director of Folklife and Cultural Studies, WheatonArts. Tom Ankner will moderate.

The third panel is called **"Spreading the Word: Publicizing Local History Collections."** Tom Ankner organized this panel to explore how we can get the word out to the community about local history collections. Panelists will be me (Beth Zak-Cohen, Charles F. Cummings NJ Information Center, Newark Library); Sarah Hull, Head of Local History, Genealogy & Special Collections, Plainfield Public Library; and Carolann DeMatos, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Somerset Public Library. Danny Klein, Jersey City Free Public Library, will moderate.

The fourth panel is called, **"Diversifying the Archives."** I organized this panel to focus on local history librarians and archivists of color and their experiences. Speakers will include Valencia Johnson, Archivist for Student Life, Princeton University Library; James Amemasor, Library Research Specialist, New Jersey Historical Society; and Jacqueline Silver-Morillo, Archivist/Librarian, Atlantic City Free Public Library. Richetta Wilson Lobban, Reference/Local History Librarian, East Orange Public Library will moderate.

Lastly, I also organized **"Documenting the Now,"** a panel that will explore collecting on current events

such as COVID. We will also have a speaker share their experience collecting just after Hurricane Sandy. Speakers will include Tom Ankner, Director, Charles F. Cummings NJ Information Center, Newark Public Library; Beth Bliss, Branch Manager, Atlantic County Library/Pleasantville branch; and Randall Marsola, Technology Librarian, South Brunswick Public Library. The moderator will be Ken Kaufman, Adult Services Librarian, Somerset County Library.

The official descriptions for all five panels can be read here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BdFrcFAHTC7U33oRs6tQs3i2VdrjTDhw9G8n19LViQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Thanks to Tom Ankner and John Beekman who helped me submit panels. And thank you to all the participants we have signed up to be part of these panels. We look forward to hearing from these great groups!



**SAVE THE DATE: JOINT VIRTUAL MEETING**  
**MARAC-NJ CAUCUS and NJLA H&P**  
**MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>, 1:30 – 3 pm**

NJLA History and Preservation Section and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) New Jersey Caucus are excited to announce a joint virtual meeting on **March 1, 2021 from 1:30-3:00 pm.**

We will be sharing organizational updates and news followed by a presentation by Caryn Radick, Project Director of the New Jersey Digital Newspaper Project.

For more information and to get the Zoom link please go to **[go.rutgers.edu/marac31](https://go.rutgers.edu/marac31)**.

## MARAC ANNOUNCES FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL CONFERENCE IN SPRING 2021

By Lisa Gensel, University of Delaware

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about many changes in our work lives over the past year. However, institutions large and small have taken these changes, and created opportunities for innovation. It is in this spirit that the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) announces its first completely online conference happening in spring 2021.

After the necessity of cancelling three in-person meetings, MARAC has chosen to present an online conference experience during the week of April 12-16. Changing from our customary two-day conference format, the Programming and Local Arrangements committees have spread the meeting out over five half-day sessions, two taking place in the morning and three in the afternoon. We hope this will make sessions available to the greatest possible number of colleagues, accommodating a variety of work schedules, caregiving situations, and the ever-present risk of "Zoom fatigue."

The theme of the Conference is "**Suffrage Legacies: Civil Rights, Political Activism, and Archives.**" This program will be based on the spring 2020 Harrisonburg meeting, which was MARAC's first conference cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 2020 marked significant anniversaries of both the 15th (1870) and 19th (1920) Amendments to the U.S.

Constitution. These amendments profoundly influenced individual voting rights, while leaving much unfinished civil rights and social justice work to be accomplished and continued into the 20th and 21st centuries. Sessions at this conference reflect the fact that many archival and cultural institutions commemorated these anniversaries in 2020, made accessible records related to voting rights and civil rights activism, and highlighted collections documenting American politics and society in this presidential election year.

The plenary address will be by Sandra Treadway, the Librarian of Virginia. Also featured will be a live episode of *An Archivist's Tale* podcast, hosted by MARAC members Geof Huth and Karen Trivette, who will interview Kelly Wooten, Reference Librarian at the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture at Duke University. Whatever your interests or experience level, MARAC hopes you will find sessions that enhance your career, inspire your daily work, and deliver insights for positive change.

Registration for this conference will open March 1, 2021. Registration fees will be incredibly affordable, with costs for MARAC members starting as low as \$5.00. For more information and updates, please visit the conference website:

<https://www.marac.info/spring-2021-conference>

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SOUTH BRUNSWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY DURING COVID-19

Submitted by Randall Marsola, Technology Librarian  
South Brunswick Public Library

In February of 2020, we held our monthly meeting of the South Brunswick Historical Society. We had our best turnout, with 16 people attending. There were no extra seats available in the Ceil Leedom Archive room. We discussed the Women's History Month display and website feature that we were planning for March. When the library closed in March because of the pandemic, I wondered how we would reach our members.

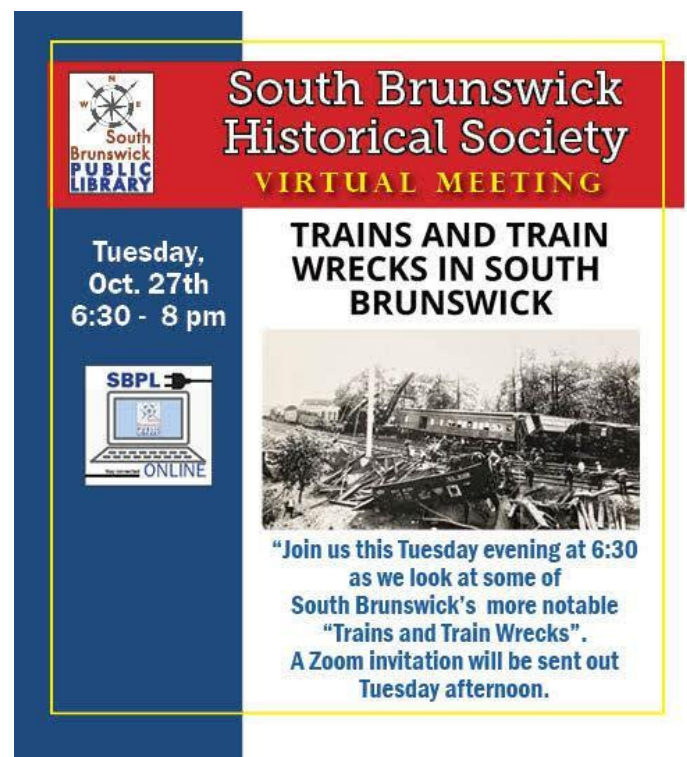
In April, I hosted a Zoom meeting and was very pleased with the response. I wasn't sure how the online meetings would be received, but over 20 attended. I presented our **"COVID-19: Tell Your Story"** online outreach project to collect our community's pandemic experiences for our archives. I realized that our audience wasn't going away, and in fact had grown. With the change of format, I felt that meetings should be approached in a different way. I planned and conducted the meetings more as local history presentations, since I thought that Zoom would lend itself to this style of program.

In July, we had our first "socially distanced" outdoor meeting. I think people were eager to meet face-to-face after a few months of isolation. We discussed the Black Lives Matter protests that were happening all over New Jersey and the world. In light of the protests, many residents were re-examining the naming of Indian Fields, a local elementary school. Some felt that the name "Indian" for indigenous people was outdated. A reporter for a local online news source interviewed the South Brunswick Town

Historian, Ed Belding, and me about our thoughts on a movement to rename the school.

In September, we hosted Barry Singer from the Princeton Historical Society via Zoom. He gave a presentation on Princeton during the Revolutionary War. He detailed how George Washington and his troops encamped overnight at South Brunswick's Longbridge Farm on their way to the Battle of Monmouth.

In October, we presented **"Train Wrecks in South Brunswick,"** a program that outlined some of the more notable accidents over the years.



**South Brunswick Historical Society**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING**

Tuesday,  
Oct. 27th  
6:30 - 8 pm

**TRAINS AND TRAIN WRECKS IN SOUTH BRUNSWICK**

**Join us this Tuesday evening at 6:30 as we look at some of South Brunswick's more notable "Trains and Train Wrecks". A Zoom invitation will be sent out Tuesday afternoon.**



In November, for the “Crimes in South Brunswick” presentation, we reviewed some of the more colorful and notorious crimes that happened in the township. A Zoom attendee remembered one of the incidents from his childhood, and the police even interviewed his sister as a witness to the crime. In addition, a retired police officer recounted his memories of the investigation.

In a strange way, the pandemic and social distancing helped us reach a wider audience. Going forward, I hope to keep our new audience and perhaps attract a larger membership.

### Grants

- In 2020, the South Brunswick Library was awarded a grant to digitize *The South Brunswick*

*Post* with OCR (Optical Character Recognition) to make it keyword searchable and available on the web. *The South Brunswick Post* was our town’s local newspaper for over 50 years. With promotion through social media posts, the resource is getting a surprising amount of use. This grant was awarded by the Middlesex County Office of Arts and History.

- The South Brunswick Library applied for a grant to have the Deans Sunday School minutes digitized in 2020. The Deans Sunday School Association book with the minutes and list of attendees dates from 1884 to 1948. The digitization of these documents will make them accessible to anyone with an internet connection. This will allow historians and researchers a glimpse of 19th century rural America and the issues that were important to them. We are hoping to be awarded this grant sometime in 2021. This grant is being offered by the Middlesex County Office of Arts and History.

- **South Brunswick Library’s Local History Social Media Posts**

During the pandemic, I started featuring Facebook and Instagram posts with photographs and information about historical houses in South Brunswick. These posts were among the most well received posts on our Facebook page. People often drive by these houses on their daily travels and want to know more about this “visible” history. I also started the popular “On This Day in South Brunswick History” post on Facebook.

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR SUSAN SWARTZBURG AWARD

The Awards Committee of the NJLA History and Preservation Section is seeking nominations for the 2021 Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award.

This award honors the memory of a librarian whose leadership in New Jersey inspired and influenced many others in our profession, particularly in the areas of preservation of library materials, archives, and the book arts.

### Criteria for the Award:

\* **Leadership.** Has demonstrated support for funding of conservation projects; promoting education of conservation issues; and increasing the visibility of archival/history materials.

\* **Creativity.** Has developed new and interesting methods of interpretation through exhibits, programs, lectures and publications.

\* **Commitment.** Has built an impressive body of work at one or more institutions in the areas of conservation, archives and/or historical fields; has a strong record of participation in NJLA; and has exhibited knowledge of and concern for the basic principles of preservation over time.

Please complete the nomination form available from <http://njlamembers.org/content/susan-swartzburg-award> (also included here in the appendix) and return it by **March 1, 2021** to sarah.hull@plfdpl.info or Sarah Hull, Plainfield Public Library, 800 Park Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2021 SAA WALDO GIFFORD LELAND AWARD

Submitted by Eric C. Stoykovich,  
Society of American Archivists Leland Award Subcommittee

Please help us to recognize the best in our profession!

Have you read a great new book about archives? Encountered a new documentary publication that is head-and-shoulders above the rest? Has a new web publication really stood out to you?

If you have, please consider nominating it for the Society of American Archivists Waldo Gifford Leland Award. Nomination forms, a list of previous winners, and more information are at <http://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-leland>. The due date for nominations is **February 28, 2021**.

The annual Leland Award - a cash prize and certificate - recognizes "writing of superior excellence and usefulness in the field of archival history, theory, and practice." Please note that periodicals are not eligible.

Established in 1959, this award honors American archival pioneer Waldo Gifford Leland (1879-1966), president of the Society of American Archivists in the 1940s and one of the driving forces behind the founding of the National Archives.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: ROGER MCDONOUGH AWARD

This award is named for Roger H. McDonough, New Jersey State Librarian from 1947 to 1975. Beginning in 2002, the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance, together with the New Jersey Historical Commission, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference-New Jersey Caucus, and the New Jersey Library Association History & Preservation Section, has given an award to a librarian, archivist, or manuscript curator for excellence in service to the New Jersey history research community and/or the general public.

Nominees for the award should meet the following criteria: 1. Served for ten years or more as a librarian, archivist, or manuscripts curator in a New Jersey institution. The nominee could be active or retired from service. 2. Demonstrated a high level of public service to the New Jersey Studies research community and/or general public.

To nominate a candidate, return the form in the appendix, stating why he/she is deserving of this award, and citing significant accomplishments (particular or general) in public service to the New

Jersey community, with a career history. You may also submit a resume of the nominee.

Previous winners include Robert Lupp, Elsalyn Palmisano, Charles Cummings, Joseph Felcone, Karl Niederer, Lois Densky-Wolff, Joseph Klett, David Mitros, Susan Gulick, Bonita Craft Grant, Joseph DaRold, Bette Epstein, Janet T. Riemer, Ronald L. Becker, Gary D. Saretzky, Thomas J. Frusciano, Ellen Callahan, and Deborah Mercer.

The award will be selected by a committee consisting of Ellen Callahan, Maxine Lurie, Tara Maharjan, Elsalyn Palmisano, and Gary D. Saretzky. Members of the committee and previous winners are not eligible to receive the award.

Nominations should be sent to Gary D. Saretzky via email to [gary@saretzky.com](mailto:gary@saretzky.com) by **August 1, 2021**. The award probably will be presented at Archives and History Day at the Monmouth County Library in October 2021. The award includes a certificate of recognition.

## UPCOMING NJSAA MEETINGS

Submitted by Tara Maharjan, MS, MA  
Processing Archivist, Special Collections and University Archives  
Rutgers University Libraries

Join the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance (NJSAA) for three upcoming virtual meetings and presentations, which are free and open to all.

On Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, NJSAA welcomes our 2020 Marc Mappen Student Research Scholarship recipients. Our business meeting will begin at 3 pm, followed by the presentations at 4:15 pm via Zoom. Please register for the meeting in advance: <https://go.rutgers.edu/NJSAA221>



Our speakers will be:

Eric Deutsch, a PhD candidate at the University of Buffalo, will discuss his research on “The Seeing Eye” in Morristown, specifically the racial and gender demographics of the institution.

William Elwell, a graduate student at Monmouth University, will discuss his research into the relationship between New Jersey’s railroad and tourism industries, specifically at the Shore.

Shu Wan, a graduate student at the University of Iowa, will discuss his efforts to disclose “the forgotten story of a group of Princeton University alumni's efforts to reform local society in Beijing, engagement in the promotion of scientific knowledge, and contribution to the dissemination of Christian gospel in early 20<sup>th</sup> century Chinese society.”

Ashley Parker, a graduate student at Monmouth University, will discuss her work analyzing heritage tourism in New Jersey.

Kamika Bennett, a graduate student at Rutgers University, will discuss her thesis on multiracial labor organizing during the 1926 strike in Passaic and its lesser-known complement in Lodi.

The scholarship is named for Marc Mappen, former executive director of the New Jersey Historical Commission and well-known in the field of New Jersey studies. Mr. Mappen passed away in January 2019 having spent most of his life, and a great deal of his energy, working on and promoting the history of the state. He was the author of numerous articles and books, a frequent speaker who delighted in telling humorous offbeat stories about people and places, a public scholar and servant, and good friend to a great many people.

On Wednesday, March 10th at 7 pm NJSAA welcomes Princeton University professor Alison

Isenberg who will discuss her new book, *Uprisings*, which takes the April 1968 unrest in Trenton as its starting point, offering a window into the volatile weeks after Rev. King’s assassination. Around the nation, more than 40 people died in what was called the Holy Week uprisings, or King riots. *Uprisings* centers on Harlan “Bruce” Joseph, a black college sophomore at Lincoln University who was fatally shot by a white officer during minor unrest in Trenton. The circumstances of his death correct longstanding misperceptions of the “riots” and their meaning.

Please register for the virtual meeting in advance: <https://go.rutgers.edu/Uprisings>

On Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, NJSAA welcomes our 2020 Paul A. Stellhorn Student Paper winners. Our business meeting will begin at 3 pm, followed by the presentations at 4:15 pm via Zoom. Please register for the meeting in advance:

<https://go.rutgers.edu/NJSAA421>

Vayne Ong, Princeton University - “Springwood Avenue Rising: Race, Leisure, and Decline in the 1970 Asbury Park Rising.” Nominated by Alison Isenberg

Sean Graham, Centenary University - “The Origins of Centenary Collegiate Institute: A Story of Industrialization, Wealth, and Natural Resources.” Nominated by Noah Haiduc-Dale

The Stellhorn Award is sponsored by the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance, the New Jersey Historical Commission, Rutgers University Libraries, and the New Jersey Caucus of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FROM MEMBERS

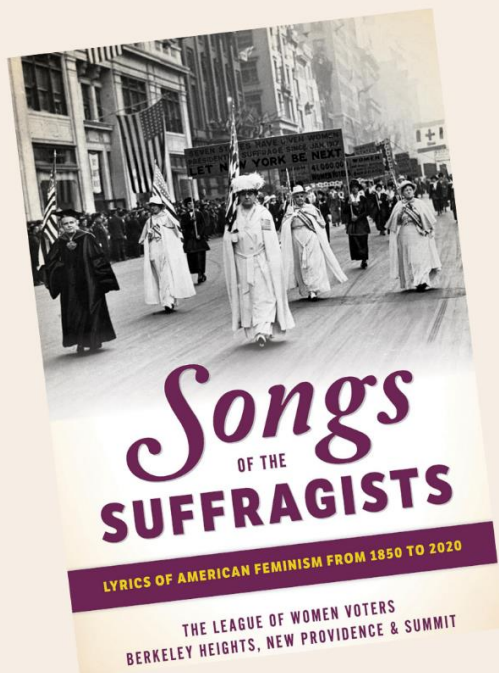
### ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Submitted by Aimee Fernandez-Puente

Local History and Special Collections Supervisor at Elizabeth Public Library

The Elizabeth Public Library will host the following virtual program on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm:

### *Songs of the Suffragists:* Lyrics of American Feminism 1850-2020



Wednesday

**March 3**

7:00pm

Register:

[tinyurl.com/  
elizmar3](https://tinyurl.com/elizmar3)

**Learn about the history of  
American feminism  
through suffragist  
song lyrics!**

From the right to vote to the right to be free from violence, American women have campaigned for equality. But the women's movement is more than a mere political fight, it's a cultural battle for American hearts and minds. This **free, virtual** program includes a 25-minute documentary focusing the intersection of music and politics in the Women's Movement, which will be followed by an author-led conversation based on the book and film, "Songs of the Suffragists."



# MORRIS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Submitted by Sara Weissman

To deal with the ongoing pandemic restrictions Morris County Historical Society, in 2021, is doing semimonthly *History Lunch Breaks*, half hour Zoom discussions, and also *History at Home* which is both

a blog and weekly reveals of special collection items. The Zoom sessions are free, requiring only email sign-up. <https://morriscountyhistory.org/programs-events/>

## NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Submitted by Tom Ankner, Director

Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center Newark Public Library

Join the Newark Public Library Wednesday, February 24 at 7pm for a talk with Rita Mattia, author of *Trying Stuff*. Rita, born and raised in New Jersey, has written a collection of funny, touching vignettes about her life.

To order the book:

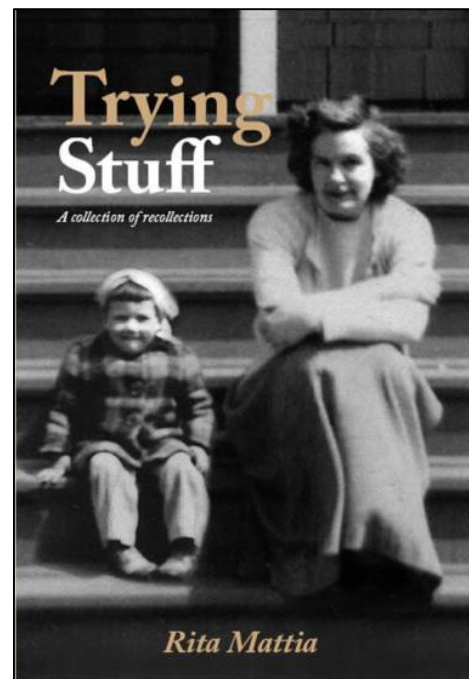
<https://marinermedia.com/?product=trying-stuff-a-collection-of-recollections>

For more information: <https://npl.org/book-talk-trying-stuff-by-rita-mattia/>

Listen as Rita reads from her book. She will also talk with the Newark Public Library's Thomas Ankner and take questions from the audience.



Rita Mattia



# OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

Submitted by Colleen Goode, Adult Services Librarian, Toms River Branch

The Ocean County Library will host the following virtual presentations in February.

## ***Shipwrecks of Ocean County – The 1846 John Minturn Storm***

Wednesday, February 17, 5:30pm

Virtual program - Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85894875013>

The John Minturn nor'easter of 1846 claimed scores of lives and nine vessels. The story of the disaster is retold in Thomas Clark's book *Undiminished Violence*, which narrates the unfortunate circumstances and poor decision-making that gave the storm its name.

## ***Madam President: The Legacy of Shirley Chisholm***

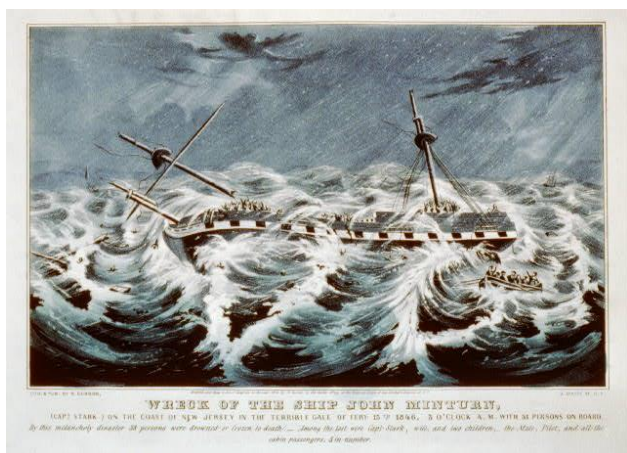
Thursday, February 18, 10:30 – 11am

Virtual program

Celebrate the life of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm and her trailblazing spirit as the first African-American woman to seek a major political party's nomination for the United States Presidency.

The link to this virtual presentation will go live on Feb. 18 at 10:30am:

<http://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D150268045>



# SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Submitted by Kathlyn Kelly, Adult Services Librarian

## ***Harriet Hemings and the Pursuit of Happiness: The Story of Thomas Jefferson's Enslaved Daughter***

Wednesday, February 17, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register:  
<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4525813>

Harriet Hemings was the second of Sally Hemings's four surviving children. This presentation opens up the vexed questions about Jefferson's families, white and black. It also tells a much larger story that continues to our own day about race, gender, and citizenship. Presented by Professor Catherine Kerrison, author of *Jefferson's Daughters: Three Sisters, White and Black, in a Young America*.

## ***Meet the Author: Brian Armstrong***

Saturday, February 20, 2 – 3 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register:  
<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4662148>

The newspapers called it the "Franklin Park Tragedy," and the story captivated public attention nationally and abroad. *The Franklin Park Tragedy: A Forgotten Story of Racial Injustice in New Jersey* won the NJSAA (New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance) award for 2020. This annual author award recognizes works that reveal a new understanding of a topic related to New Jersey's history and culture.

## ***New Jersey Women in World War II***

Wednesday, March 3, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register:  
<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4551443>

This program explores the pivotal roles that New Jersey women played during World War II and discusses the importance of using local archives to bring the past to life. Presented by Dr. Patricia Chappine.

## ***Lydia Darragh: Quaker Spy of the Revolution***

Tuesday, March 9, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register:  
<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4515548>

Lydia Darragh was a wife, mother, midwife, and devout Quaker who lived in Philadelphia during the American Revolution. She was also a spy. Presented by Dr. Jack Briggs.

## ***Women at Work: Paterson Silk Strike of 1913***

Thursday, March 11, 7 - 8:00 pm

Virtual program please visit this link to register:  
<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4624414>

In the winter of 1913, more than 24,000 men, women, and children marched out of Paterson, New Jersey's silk mills calling for decent working conditions, an end to child labor, and an eight-hour day. Presented by The American Labor Museum.

## ***New Jersey's Role in Computing History***

Monday, March 29, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register:  
<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4590392>

When asked about the history of computing, most people think about Silicon Valley or Boston, but a lot



happened right here in the Garden State. Presented by Evan Koblentz.

***The Military Accomplishments of Major Alexander Hamilton***

Wednesday, March 31, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register: <https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4513462>

This program illustrates many stories about Hamilton's military leadership. Presented by Damien Cregeau.

***The 1964 New York World's Fair***

Monday, April 12, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register: <https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4637241>

Discover the history of the 1964-65 New York World's Fair, its creation, its controversies, and some of its most famous attractions.

***Envisioning New Jersey***

Thursday, April 15, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register: <https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4568804>

In this presentation, Dr. Richard Veit speaks about his co-authored book, *Envisioning New Jersey*.

***New Jersey in the American Revolution***

Wednesday, April 28, 7 – 8 pm

Virtual program. Please visit this link to register: <https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4570630>

New Jersey was the “Crossroads of the American Revolution.” Today, as its residents confront new, but no less serious challenges, it is both appropriate and crucial to use the state’s vibrant history to help shape our shared future. Presented by Professor Jonathan Mercantini.

# SPARTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY: THOMAS A. EDISON: THE PERSON, THE VISION, AND HIS GENIUS

Submitted by Nancy Madasci, Sparta Historical Society

The Sparta Historical Society's special exhibit at the Van Kirk Homestead Museum, "Thomas A. Edison: The Person, The Vision, and His Genius," will continue to be open by appointment throughout spring 2021. The exhibit is an overview of Edison's innovations and life including his mining efforts in Sparta. For the first time, it brings together artifacts from numerous institutions as well as from the largest privately held Edison collection in the world. Topics covered include Edison's personal life, telegraphy, sound machines, mining interests, light bulbs, the Vagabonds, and his faithful team known as the Insomnia Squad.

Using all safety guidelines (masks, taking temperatures, hand sanitizing, social distancing, and contact questions), groups of up to four may make a reservation for a 45-minute talk in the gallery. People must arrive 15 minutes ahead of their appointment and remember that the restrooms are closed. The Edison exhibit is the only area of the Van Kirk Homestead Museum currently open. The talk will provide time to privately view the exhibit and ask questions. People may make a reservation by calling 973-726-0883, wait for menu options, and Press #2. Leave a message with the name(s), phone

number, and a preferred day and time. We will return the call to confirm.

The Van Kirk Homestead Museum is located on Route 517 next to the Sparta Middle School (use Middle School driveway.)



Photo: Phonograph case and advertisement - taken by Nancy Madasci

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### February

*Ongoing: History Lunch Breaks* (semimonthly), by Morris County Historical Society

**9:** NJSAA Meeting, 3pm (business); 4:15 pm (presentations)

**17:** *Shipwrecks of Ocean County: 1849 John Minturn Storm*, OCL, virtual program, 5:30 pm

*Harriet Hemings and the Pursuit of Happiness*, SCLS, virtual program, 7 pm

**18:** *Madam President: The Legacy of Shirley Chisholm*, OCL, virtual program, 10:30 am

**20:** *Meet the Author, Brian Armstrong*, SCLS, virtual program, 2 pm

**24:** Virtual book talk, Rita Mattia, author of *Trying Stuff*, Newark Public Library, 7 pm

### MARCH

*Ongoing through spring "Thomas A. Edison: The Person, The Vision, and His Genius,"* Van Kirk Homestead Museum

**1 – Joint Virtual Meeting NJLA H&P and MARAC-NJ, 1:30-3pm**

Deadline for Susan Swartzburg Award nominations

**3:** *Songs of Suffragists*, virtual presentation, Elizabeth Public Library, 7 pm

*New Jersey Women in World War II*, SCLS, virtual program, 7 pm

**9:** *Lydia Darragh: Quaker Spy of the Revolution*, SCLS, virtual program, 7 pm

**10:** NJSAA virtual meeting, presentation: *Uprisings* by Alison Isenberg, 7 pm

**11:** *Women at Work: Paterson Silk Strike of 1913*, SCLS, virtual program, 7 pm

**29:** *New Jersey's Role in Computing History*, SCLS, virtual program, 7 pm

**31:** *The Military Accomplishments of Major Alexander Hamilton*, SCLS, 7 pm

### APRIL

**12-16: MARAC Virtual Conference**

**12:** *The 1964 New York World's Fair*, SCLS, virtual program, 7 pm

**13:** NJSAA virtual meeting, 3pm (business); 4:15 (presentations)

**15:** *Envisioning New Jersey*, SCLS, virtual program, 7 pm

**23:** Deadline for submissions to *The Chronicle*

**28:** *New Jersey in the American Revolution*, SCLS, 7 pm

### JUNE – NJLA Annual Conference June 3rd-4th

**AUGUST 1** - Deadline for nomination submissions Roger McDonough Award

**SUSAN G. SWARTZBURG PRESERVATION AWARD**

**NOMINATION FORM**

Please complete or prepare facsimile with same information to

Sarah Hull, Chair NJLA History & Preservation Section Awards Committee at  
**sarah.hull@plfdpl.info**

or

Sarah Hull,  
Plainfield Public Library  
800 Park Avenue  
Plainfield, NJ 07060

**DEADLINE March 1, 2021**

*The Susan G. Swartzburg Award, created in 2003, recognizes a New Jersey Library Association member who, over a substantial number of years, has made exceptional contributions to the awareness, understanding, and/or preservation of archival and library materials in New Jersey. The Award honors the memory of the Rutgers Preservation Librarian whose leadership in New Jersey inspired and influenced many others in our profession, particularly in the areas of preservation and book arts. The awardee is selected by the NJLA History & Preservation Section of NJLA. The award will be presented at the annual NJLA Conference in May 2021.*

**Criteria for the Award:**

**Leadership.** Has demonstrated support for funding of conservation projects; promoting education of conservation issues; and increasing the visibility of archival/history materials.

**Creativity.** Has developed new and interesting methods of interpretation through exhibits, programs, lectures and publications.

**Commitment.** Has built an impressive body of work at one or more institutions in the areas of conservation, archives and/or historical fields; has a strong record of participation in NJLA; and has exhibited knowledge of and concern for the basic principles of preservation over time.

Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Person making the nomination \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

How does the nominee meet the criteria of the award (attach continuation if necessary)?

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What are the outstanding characteristics of the nominee (attach continuation if necessary)?

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List relevant positions held by nominee, e.g. library, archives, historical, curatorial, professional, or educational, but not elected political offices, with dates if known (attach continuation if necessary or attach resume with this information):

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List supporting documents, such as publications, by or about the nominee (attach continuation if necessary or attach resume with this information):

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Past winners of this award include:

- 2003 - Elsalyn Palmisano
- 2004 - Ralph Ocker
- 2005 - Elizabeth "Betty" Steckman
- 2006 - Gary Saretzky
- 2007 - Joseph DaRold
- 2008 - Susan Gulick
- 2009 - Peggy Norris
- 2010 - Michele Stricker
- 2011 - Miriam Kornblatt
- 2013 - Frederic C. Pachman
- 2014 - Tim Corlis
- 2015 - Deborah Mercer
- 2016 - Robert Stewart
- 2017 - Sarah Hull
- 2018 - Chad Leinaweaver
- 2019 - Karl Niederer
- 2020 - Debra Schiff

**ROGER MCDONOUGH LIBRARIANSHIP AWARD  
NOMINATION FORM**

Please complete or prepare facsimile with same information and return by **August 1, 2021**

This award is named for Roger H. McDonough, New Jersey State Librarian from 1947 to 1975. Beginning in 2002 the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance, together with the New Jersey Historical Commission, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference-New Jersey Caucus, and the New Jersey Library Association History & Preservation Section, has given an award to a librarian, archivist, or manuscript curator for excellence in service to the New Jersey history research community and/or the general public.

Nominees for the award should meet the following criteria: 1. Served for ten years or more as a librarian, archivist, or manuscripts curator in a New Jersey institution. The nominee could be active or retired from service. 2. Demonstrated a high level of public service to the New Jersey Studies research community and/or general public.

To nominate a candidate, return this form, stating why he/she is deserving of this award, and citing significant accomplishments (particular or general) in public service to the New Jersey community, with a career history. You may also submit a resume of the nominee.

Previous winners include Robert Lupp, Elsalyn Palmisano, Charles Cummings, Joseph Felcone, Karl Niederer, Lois Densky-Wolff, Joseph Klett, David Mitros, Susan Gulick, Bonita Craft Grant, Joseph DaRold, Bette Epstein, Janet T. Riemer, Ronald L. Becker, Gary D. Saretzky, Thomas J. Frusciano, Ellen Callahan, and Deborah Mercer.

The award will be selected by a committee consisting of Ellen Callahan, Maxine Lurie, Tara Maharjan, Elsalyn Palmisano, and Gary D. Saretzky. Members of the committee and previous winners are not eligible to receive the award.

Nominations should be sent to Gary D. Saretzky via email to [gary@saretzky.com](mailto:gary@saretzky.com) by **August 1, 2021**. The award probably will be presented at Archives and History Day at the Monmouth County Library in October 2021. The award includes a certificate of recognition.

*Past non-winning nominees are considered for the award but nominators are encouraged to send additional or updated information.*

Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Person making the nomination \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

How does the nominee meet the criteria of the award (attach continuation if necessary)?

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What are the outstanding characteristics of the nominee (attach continuation if necessary)?

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List relevant positions held by nominee, e.g. historical, curatorial or educational, but not elected political offices, with dates if known:

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List supporting documents, such as publications, by or about the nominee (attach continuation if necessary):

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Please return by **August 1, 2020** to [gary@sartzky.com](mailto:gary@sartzky.com)