



Over a century of service to the Valley Community

November - December 2008
VOL. 1 ISSUE 3



DERBY NECK LIBRARY

Staff Profile

Patricia E. Sweeney

Pat Sweeney has earned three degrees in English : a B.A. (summa cum laude) and an M.A., both from the University of Bridgeport, and a Ph.D. from Fordham University. Her doctoral dissertation on William Faulkner's women



characters was published by ABC-Clio Press as a reference book. In addition, Pat has published three other reference books, and a large number of biographical essays and book reviews, the latter for Salem Press. [see photo]

Pat was a part-time instructor of English for the

University of Bridgeport and also worked at Plumb Memorial Library in Shelton. She has been with the Derby Neck Library since 1996 (before the rebuilding). Since 2000 she has also been a docent and researcher at the Osborne Homestead Museum in Derby.

Her favorite books are those dealing with American history and politics, as well as biographies. She is also a knitter.

Regional Library

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307 Hawthorne Avenue
Derby, Connecticut 06418

www.derbynecklibrary.org
email: derbynecklibrary@biblio.org

Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sat. - Sun. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
(Open Sat. & Sun. all year)

New to the Library

Beginning in October a new service is available to everyone. You can now download books onto an I-pod. There are many titles to choose from including bestsellers and classics. It's a free service and almost like checking out a book. Our staff is trained in downloading the titles and helping you to save them to either your I-pod or another mp3 player.

We also have a magazine subscription service on-line. There are over 1,700 full-text periodicals available, including over 85,000 biographies. This is an excellent source for anyone working on a paper or just interested in getting the latest news.

Needler News



The Derby Neck Needlers are a group of friends who enjoy knitting, crocheting, quilting and needlework. We have just welcomed our first male participant. We meet every Saturday from 1:30 to 3:30. All are welcome to come and improve your crafting skills. Many of the expert needlers are happy to share their expertise. Light refreshments are provided.

On Wednesday another group of needlers meets in the afternoons. We are here at 1 p.m. and stay as long as it takes. We welcome any newcomers.



“THE WAY WE WERE” VALLEY SLIDE PRESENTATION

Healthy Valley and the Friends of the Derby Neck Library will co-sponsor a program expanded from the “Way We Were” calendar, showing slides of historic photographs of the Valley, on Tuesday, November 11th at 6:30 p.m. at the Derby Neck Library. Patricia Tarasovic, co-chair of Healthy



Postcard photo from the “Way We Were” calendar printed by the Healthy Valley.

Valley, will explain Healthy Valley’s goal of bringing a National Heritage Area designation to the Valley. Marian O’Keefe of the Derby Historical Society will narrate a slide presentation of past images of the

Valley and provide a witty commentary on its history. 2009 Calendars will be available for a donation of \$5.00. All are invited to attend.

Healthy Valley is a grassroots committee of the Valley Council for Health and Human Services. It was founded in 1993 with support from the National League of Cities. Over 200 stakeholders assessed the needs of the Valley and devised projects in six key performance areas. Electronic Valley, still the website for the Lower Naugatuck Valley, was one of these projects, along with a health assessment of 5,000 Valley residents, the Valley Guide and Valley Driving Tour, the Valley River Celebrations, the Community Conversation on Education and subsequent small grants given to teachers with creative projects. After completing these projects, Healthy Valley voted to turn its attention to the two rivers defining our Valley and the many historic and scenic sites we enjoy. Come see photographs of these Valley assets that will make us a strong candidate for National Heritage Area designation.

Toys for Tots Collection at the Library

This year, Derby Neck Library will again serve as a collection site for TEAM Inc.’s Toys for Tots drive. TEAM has been operating the Valley Toys for Tots program for over 20 years. This program collects new, unwrapped toys during November and December and distributes them as Christmas gifts to needy children in the Lower Naugatuck Valley community. The success of the program relies on volunteer support and community involvement. Each year with the help of the community TEAM provides toys to over 1,000 children.

Place your unwrapped new toys in our decorated collection box located in the side entrance hall from Thanksgiving week to the week before Christmas. Here’s a way to get in the true spirit of the holidays, and bring special joy to needy Valley children!

Wilbur F. Osborne, Orator

by Patricia E. Sweeney

Library founder Wilbur Osborne was well-known locally as a very gifted orator. He was asked to give speeches at many public functions, including at Hartford for an Ansonia Republican friend running for political office. He endorsed Charles H. Pine for Governor at the Republican State Convention in 1900.

Major Osborne also attended the Republican National Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1884, a rather rousing event. There he spoke in support of James Blaine for U.S. President. The Major was always a very patriotic man, and among his best speeches are those in remembrance of and in homage to the Grand Army of the Republic (the Union Army) of the Civil War, in which he served for 3 ½ years. He was the chief orator at the dedication of two memorials to these veterans: one at Hartford on Sept. 25, 1902 unveiling a monument to the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery, his division; and another on July 4, 1883 for the Civil War monument on the Derby Green. He was on the committee that petitioned the U.S. Congress for the four cannons that make up that monument.

The Major’s manuscripts for these, and other speeches numbering over 25 items, were left to our library by his daughter, Frances Osborne Kellogg. His other favorite topics include: labor issues, word derivations, American history, the Methodist movement, graduation speeches for Derby High School, and words spoken in support of the Derby Neck Library. Of the library he once said: “Every beneficent work which costs the public little and which benefits it greatly should be perpetuated.”

Election night

Join us on Election Day when we will be holding our very own elections. After you’ve voted (or before) come to the library and vote on your favorite chocolate sandwich cookie – Hydrox or Oreo. We will also have the television on providing up to the minute coverage of the election. Snacks will be served. So come in and express your opinion.

VOTE
your opinion
counts!

STAFF:

Susan Garry, *Head Librarian*
Kathleen Gordon, *Assistant Head Librarian/Children’s Librarian*
Patricia Sweeney, *Reference & Cataloging*
Roberto Carmona, *Circulation & IT*
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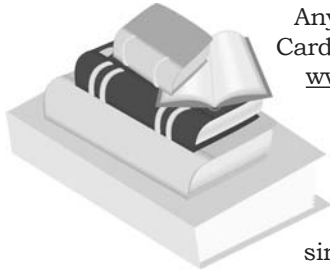


Downloadable Audiobooks for Derby Neck Patrons

Books on Tape have been available for library patrons for over 30 years now and in recent years as technology has changed there has been a noticeable increase in the use of Books on CD. It is likely that both options will remain available in the years ahead.

What is fairly new these days is the ability to provide patrons with items that can be downloaded over the internet. Even if not looking for books to listen, most people who use the Derby Neck OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) whether here at the library or from home, have probably run across titles listed as "Downloadable Audiobook."

Downloadable Audiobooks are simply books that people download to a computer. Once that is done they can be listened to from the computer or, better yet, the book can be transferred to a portable listening device. With this technology our patrons can download books 24/7 and listen to them on their MP3 Players and iPods whenever and wherever they like.



Anyone with a Derby Neck Library Card can go to our website

www.derbynecklibrary.org and make use of this feature. The

first time will require downloading something called the Overdrive

Media Console which is simply software that allows your

computer to talk to the computer that is sending you the book. Step-by-step directions for how to carry out the download are easy to follow. Once that is done, it doesn't have to be done again. The software is in the computer and whenever you like, you can go to the same computer and download a book.

It is quite surprising how many titles are available and you can browse by subject, fiction, nonfiction, children and teen titles. Of special interest is the number of books related to learning foreign languages. If you've ever wanted to learn a little of a foreign language this is a convenient way to get started in the privacy of your own home.

Check it out sometime.

Go to www.derbynecklibrary.org and in the left hand column tap on DOWNLOADABLE LIBRARY. Next tap on OverDrive and you'll be on your way!

Book Sale

The Friends of the Derby Neck Library will hold their semi-annual book sale from Nov. 15 through Nov. 23. There will be hundreds of new titles. We offer fiction, non-fiction, children's books, videos, magazines and more. Hardcover books are \$1.00; paperbacks are 50 cents. This year for the first time we will also be offering baked goods and needlework crafts.

Most of our funds are raised through book sales. With these funds, we purchase supplies and equipment for the library as well as sponsor programs. Come to our book sale and browse as long as you like. Hours are 1-5 on weekends and 10 to 8 on weekdays. We are closed on Fridays.

Look for information about a giving tree which we will sponsor in December to help provide happy holidays for needy families in the Valley.



Dispatch from the Director



This is what I think of as the family time of year.

As it gets colder families spend more time at home and of course there are the holidays

- Thanksgiving, Hanukah, Christmas, etc.

During this time the library might be a good place to visit. We have all sorts of materials on cooking, gifts and how to take the stress out of all of the above.

Our Wii bowling league has been going very well and if you're looking for a fun

inside activity that costs nothing, please come and join in. Again, during these

hard economic times the library provides

valuable resources and most of them are free of charge.

You can get new movies to watch as a family, new books to read cozily while it storms outside, or get information on jobs

and other resources. See the article on downloading books to your I-pod. So, I wish you all happy, healthy holidays and

ditto for the new year.

--Susan

Children's Corner

Now that school has started, children are looking for books and materials to help them with their homework and reports. Here at the library they can find not only the materials but also computers and friendly librarians to help show them where to look. Our ER (easy reader)

section provides 4 different levels for

beginning readers to choose from.

The IR (intermediate reader)

section is great for those students looking for beginning chapter books.

The biography

selection is a great place to look for non-

fiction reading requirements. Even reluctant readers can

find an interesting person to read about. Listening to books

helps students comprehend the meaning of stories and

build vocabulary. Here in both the Children's Corner and

the Teen Area we have a large selection of audio books to choose from.

With today's economy being challenging, it makes

sense to use all of the free services of your local library,

from DVDs, Music CDs, Books, Magazines, Newspapers,

Audio Tapes, Free Programs (Children's, Teen's and

Adult's) to Computer use.

Hope to see you soon!

Miss Kathi





Calendar of Events

November

(Check the library and local newspapers for additional programs)

November 3	Pre three's	10 & 11 am
November 4	Election Day – Library open	
November 4	Little's	1 p.m.
November 4	Been there, done that	10:30 a.m.
November 5	Flu clinic	3:30-5:30 p.m.
November 5	Child safety program	6:30 p.m.
November 6	Scrabble night	6:15 p.m.
November 6	Music & movement	10 & 11 a.m.
November 8	Homegrown String Band	2:30-4 p.m.
November 10	Pre three's	10 & 11 a.m.
November 11	Veteran's Day – Library open	
November 11	Been there, done that	10:30 a.m.
November 11	Little's	1 p.m.
November 11	"The Way We Were" slide presentation	6:30 p.m.
November 12	Jewelry workshop – make your own turquoise/silver	6 p.m.
November 12	Teen night	6:00 p.m. (community room)
November 13	Music & movement	10 & 11 a.m.
November 13	Derby Historical Society	6:30 p.m.
November 15 & 16	Book and bake sale begins	1 - 5 p.m.
November 17-20	Book sale	10 a.m.-8 p.m.
November 17	Culture club (book discussion)	12:30 p.m.
November 19	Reading to Sandy	6 - 7p.m.
November 22-23	Book sale ends	1-5 p.m.
November 24	Pre three's	10 & 11 a.m.
November 25	Been there, done that	10:30 a.m.
November 25	Little's	1 p.m.
November 27	Thanksgiving – Library closed	
November 30	Mother/daughter jewelry making	2 p.m.



December

December 1	Pre 3's	10 & 11 a.m.
December 2	Been there, done that	10:30 a.m.
December 2	Little's	1 p.m.
December 4	Music & movement	10 & 11 a.m.
December 4	Scrabble	6:15 p.m.
December 8	Pre 3's	10 & 11 a.m.
December 9	Been there, done that	10:30 a.m.
December 9	Little's	1 p.m.
December 10	Teen Night/Holiday jewelry making 3 pairs earrings	6-8 p.m.
December 11	Music & movement	10 & 11 a.m.
December 15	Pre 3's	10 & 11 a.m.
December 15	Culture club (book discussion)	12:30 p.m.
December 16	Been there, done that	10:30 a.m.
December 16	Little's	1 p.m.
December 17	Reading to Sandy	6-7 p.m.
December 18	Music & movement	10 & 11 a.m.
December 18	Jewelry making class	6-8 p.m.
December 24	Christmas Eve – Library closed	
December 25	Christmas Day – Library closed	

