



# RUMSON

## Borough Bulletin

SUMMER  
2010

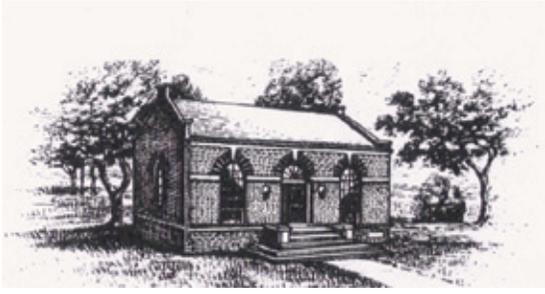
Settled in 1665



## The Oceanic Free Library



*Library photograph courtesy of Drew Elia*



## ***THE OCEANIC FREE LIBRARY***

Enriching the Life of Our Town for 90 Years

Nearly 90 years ago, on December 1, 1920, the Oceanic Free Library opened the doors of its new red brick building at the corner of West River Road and Second Street for the very first time. The library was a gift to the Borough from Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Meeker in memory of their son, William Henry Meeker, a Harvard graduate, patriot and member of the Lafayette Escadrilles who died in his plane over France while training for combat during World War I just 100 days after enlisting.

The residents welcomed the idea of a village library so enthusiastically that over 200 residents requested the privilege of becoming Founding Members of the Oceanic Free Library. These and other residents donated their time, property, expertise, money and books to make the "memorial library" a reality. The fledgling Borough was 13 years old at that time, having incorporated in 1907. It was decided the new library would carry the name of the village of Oceanic, the Borough's most populous district.

In 1919, the Meekers formed the Oceanic Public Library Trust (OPLT), whose mission was to establish and sustain the library, as it continues to do today. The OPLT guided the acquisition of land along with the design and construction of the original library building on West River Road. Several years later, the Oceanic Free Library Association (OFLA) was created to run the day-to-day operations of the library. Separate boards of volunteers govern both non-profit organizations.

On opening day there were 2,000 donated books on the library's polished walnut shelves, presided over by M. Esther Bruce, the very first librarian. Miss Bruce recalled the children from nearby Lafayette Street School racing to the library after school to obtain their first library cards! The library flourished to become a vibrant community hub. By 1959, demands on the library were great as the library served a population that had burgeoned from 1,680 at its inception to 6,500 residents. Over

a period of 39 years, the library's 2,000 original books had multiplied sevenfold, with a collection exceeding 14,000 volumes. The little library was bursting at the seams and desperately in need of more space.

The library Trustees made the decision to relocate to the corner of Ridge Road and Avenue of Two Rivers at the location of the former Post Office and Hintelmann's grocery store. The new library occupies the entire footprint of the old 1926 building. If you compare the commemorative postcard depicting the Post Office and Hintelmann's store with the photo of the library today (cover) you can see the same angled doorway on the northeast corner of the building!

The big move took place on October 26, 1959, and the library has operated as a privately funded, independent library at this location for 51 years. Today, the Oceanic Free Library is one of the State's only privately funded public libraries. While partially supported by the Borough, the main sources of funding for the library are the original trust, the annual Rumson Community Appeal and private donations. The OPLT primarily provides support to the library for all matters pertaining to the library building, its maintenance and repair. The annual operation of the library continues to be funded almost entirely by community donations. Grand projects such as the recently completed redesign of the Meeker Children's Room require a large fundraiser specific to that effort. It takes a lot of people, time, energy and dedication to accomplish such lofty goals!

Wish list items, small projects, upgrades and enhancements have no line item on the library's annual budget but can be very important to the staff and patrons of the library. This provides an ideal opportunity for the Friends of the Oceanic Library (FOOLS!) to focus on supporting and promoting the library in a unique and important way.

And while a succession of wonderful librarians have presided lovingly over the shelves of OFL, no one has bested the longevity of Miss Esther Bruce, that very first librarian hired in 1920. Miss Bruce reigned over the library for an astounding 44 years, retiring in 1964! Many current Rumson residents happily remember receiving their very first library card at the little brick building on West River Road. Miss Bruce was certainly instrumental in instilling in all her young patrons a lifelong love of reading. Our "little village library is indeed a treasure beyond words."

## COMING UP THIS FALL AT OCEANIC FREE LIBRARY...

### Armchair Travel Series



Thursday, September 16

Share the Argentinian travels of  
Ann and Doug Rossbach

Call the library for October's travel adventure!

### OFL Book Group



Our book group meets once a month and new members are always welcome. On Thursday, September 30, the group will be discussing Brooklyn by Colm Toibin. Books will be available at the library. Cynthia Dannen is sure to come up with other interesting reads – please check our web site or call for titles and times.

### Knitting Group and MORE!



Our very lively knitting group meets at the library every Friday at 2:00 PM. Bring your needles, your questions and your sense of humor! AND... as a spin-off of this group, we are planning a BRIDGE GROUP. If you are interested in joining, either as a possible instructor or player, please call the library. We supply the table space – you bring the cards!



### Art at the Library

Our revolving art displays, under the guidance of curator Theresa Caracappa, continue to delight and entertain library patrons.

#### **Upcoming Exhibits:**

- AUGUST  
Pottery by Marlis Steadman  
Kaisa Lenz Oils
- SEPTEMBER  
Watercolors by Priscilla Anderson  
Jewelry by Beverly Hertler

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE PARTY



*As We Celebrate the  
90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the Venerable  
OCEANIC FREE LIBRARY!*

*Sunday, September 12  
4:30 PM*

*Sea Bright Lawn Tennis  
and Cricket Club*

*\$45 per person  
Watch for your invitation  
in mid-August!*

*Wine and tastings from  
Rumson's  
finest establishments*

- OCTOBER  
Oils by Bob Willie  
Creative Handbags by Anna Parke

#### In Memoriam

In May, OFL lost a great friend and generous patron, Sue Berry. An OFL Board member for many years and one of the founding members of the knitting group, she fought a courageous battle with cancer with grace, dignity and a ready smile. Sue was an inspiration to all who had the pleasure to know her, and she will be deeply missed.



## BECOME a FOOL!

(That's a "Friend of the Oceanic Library")



For more information, contact  
Rosanna Fazio  
[rosanna.fazio@comcast.net](mailto:rosanna.fazio@comcast.net)



The Meeker Children's Room at OFL

### LIBRARY HOURS



Monday	1 - 7 PM
Tuesday	10 AM - 5 PM
Wednesday	10 AM - 5 PM
Thursday	1 - 7 PM
Friday	10 AM - 5 PM

Summer Saturdays	9 AM - 12 PM
Autumn Saturdays	10 AM - 4 PM

#### **PLEASE NOTE!**

Oceanic Free Library will soon begin its long overdue improvements to the main library rooms. Beginning the week of August 23<sup>rd</sup>, there will be intermittent closing announcements posted at the library, on the library's web site ([www.oceaniclibrary.org](http://www.oceaniclibrary.org)) and on the library answering machine (732-842-2692). Please check that the library is open before you visit so you won't be disappointed! Closings will be kept to a minimum but we do anticipate there will be times when it is closed for a week, and we thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete this exciting restoration to what the library's founder called "our little village library."

## Rumson Garden Club Landscape Design Becomes a Reality at Rumson Borough Hall

Beautiful gardens are abloom this summer at Rumson's new Borough Hall. The plan for the new landscaping was based on a design created by two Rumson Garden Club (RGC) members, Diane Guidone and Lee Callman, wife of former Rumson Mayor Charles Callman. Their design was awarded the Helen Hurd Trophy for civic design by the RGC.

The new garden, while not complete, features examples of Rumson's rich and varied natural plant life. Different areas of the garden are planted with local themes ranging from coastal garden to woodland glade. These micro environments feature butterfly bushes, boxwoods, grasses, roses and hydrangeas, all of which will provide visual interest all year round.



The planting at Borough Hall is the latest of many projects that the RGC's Civics Committee has sponsored over the years. At any time and season, dedicated RGC members can be spotted clipping and mulching at the traffic islands at Avenue of Two Rivers and Buena Vista Avenue, Maintaining the Cow Pond at Deane Porter, planting and maintaining the window boxes at Oceanic Library, raking and dead-heading the garden at West Park, and watering and weeding at the Memorial Garden at Victory Park as well as around the Borough sign cater-corner to Craze's.

Appropriately, Diane Guidone, one of the designers of the Borough Hall mini-park, will be speaking about designing small gardens at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 53 E. Hanover Ave., Morristown, on October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:30-3:00 PM. Formally trained in England, Ms. Guidone will explain how garden design concepts - use of line and shape, illusion, patterns and proportion, focal points, to mention a few - can be applied on a small scale. For further information on the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, visit [www.arboretumfriends.org](http://www.arboretumfriends.org).

## Rumson Recreation

### Fall Programs

Recreation soccer and flag football registration continues at the Rumson Borough Hall Mondays-Fridays from 8:30 am-4:30 pm. **Soccer**-Children must be in grades K-8 in September 2010. **Flag Football**-ages 5-8(must be 5 years old by August 1). The clinics will be held at the Riverside Park 6-8 PM on August 17, 19, 24 & 26.

Rumson Crew will begin the fall rowing season in September. This program is for high school students who live in Rumson and Fair Haven. Registration forms may be completed at the Rumson Borough Hall or downloaded from the Rumson website at [www.rumsonnj.gov](http://www.rumsonnj.gov). Coaches will call or email the details regarding the practice session dates and times.

Recreation basketball registration forms will be sent home through the public schools at the end of September. Additional forms may be obtained at the Rumson Borough Hall or the Rumson Borough website [www.rumsonnj.gov](http://www.rumsonnj.gov). This program is for children who are in grades 1-8 during the 2010-11 school year. Children in grades 1 & 2 will participate in Saturday morning clinics. Children in grades 3-8 will participate in an in town league. Start times for the clinic will be listed on the registration form (**please mark your calendar you will not be called**). Coaches will call the children in grades 3-8 with team assignments and start times for the league practices and games.

Questions regarding any recreation programs may be sent to Recreation Director John Hird at [jhird@rumsonnj.gov](mailto:jhird@rumsonnj.gov) or call 732-530-6607.



### Rumson Crew Program Wins Victor E. Grossinger Award For Recreational Programming

On June 5, 2010 Rumson Recreation Director John R. Hird received notification from the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners that the Rumson Crew program was selected to receive the Victor E. Grossinger Award for Recreational Programming for the Rumson Crew program. The Grossinger Award is given to outstanding, innovative recreation or environmental education programs.

In recognition of National Parks and Recreation Month, this award was presented jointly by the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners and the Board of Chosen Freeholders on July 8, 2010.

Started in July of 2006, the Borough of Rumson entertained a proposal by Rumson resident Dan Edwards, a rowing instructor and collegiate rowing coach, to start a rowing program for the residents of Rumson and Fair Haven. Under the direction of Crew Coordinator and Head Coach Dan Edwards, the program runs throughout the year, providing rowing instruction in an instructional barge, rowing shells and ERG's (rowing machines). In addition to high school age children, the program runs summer "Learn to Row" camps for children who are in grades 6, 7 and 8.

Through the generosity of many residents who contributed funds to the Rumson Endowment and the Borough's acquisition of the property adjacent to Victory Park, the Rumson Crew program is committed to creating a first-class, self-sustaining community rowing program.

### DON'T MISS AUGUST'S VICTORY PARK CONCERTS

For  
FAMILIES AND KIDS!

Sunday, August 8, 7:00 PM  
THE FUZZY LEMONS



Sunday, August 22, 7:00 PM  
POLKA DOT



### RUMSON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DOES IT AGAIN!

For the second time in just three years our Public Works Department was recognized for their consistently hard work keeping our parks in tip-top shape. The Monmouth County Parks System presented the Borough of Rumson with the Ross W. Maghan Exemplary Parks Maintenance Award for Riverside Park on July 8. Congratulations to Mark Wellner, DPW Superintendent, Rob Anderson, Parks Foreman, and their dedicated crew!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!  
RUMSON'S FREE  
RABIES CLINIC  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

**If your dog is due for a RABIES SHOT this year, be sure to take advantage of the FREE clinic to be held from 7-8 PM on Thursday, November 4 at the Public Works garage behind Borough Hall!**



**A few notes on dog licensing: ALL resident dogs must be licensed in January of each year. The Borough only issues 1-year licenses. According to State law, a dog's rabies shot must be valid *through October 31 of the licensing year* to obtain a license. Therefore any dog with rabies shot expiring between 11/01/10 and 10/31/11 will need a new shot to license for 2011. Be sure to ask your vet for a rabies shot certificate as we must have a copy to license your dog!**

**If you need to check the status of your dog's rabies shot, call us at 732-842-3300 and we can look that up for you. Licensing in January saves you late fees and makes your dog a legal citizen, as well as protecting him should he slip out of your yard and get lost.**

**LOVE YOUR DOG – PROTECT HIM AGAINST  
RABIES...  
AND GET HIM A LICENSE!**

**Local Women are invited to Join as  
Rumson Women's Club  
Opens a New Season**



President Linda Babeuf of the Rumson Women's Club invites all local women to attend the club's first meeting of the season to be held Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. The opening meeting is a Welcome/Welcome Back dinner for prospective members, guests and current members. Please call President Babeuf at 732-842-5687 for more information about the September dinner.

RWC will continue to give a scholarship based on community service, will send a high school junior to Girls Career Institute at Douglass College and support

the New Jersey State Federation Women's Clubs 2010-2012 Special State Project, Gilda's Club New Jersey. Gilda's Club is an organization founded to enhance the lives of those individuals and their families who are living with cancer. New Jersey has one of the highest rates of cancer, with 1,330 new cases diagnosed daily. That makes Gilda's Club's free programs of critical importance, especially in an economy where people are hard-pressed to pay essential medical expenses. In addition to fund-raising, the RWC will look to become Gilda's Club advocates, volunteer in their clubhouses and collect and/or donate items for use at one of the many Gilda's Club events and workshops.

The RWC holds general meetings on the first Monday of months October through April at 7:30 PM (except December) at Bingham Hall, Bingham Avenue, Rumson. Some programs planned for the upcoming club year include an expert on African violets, stamping greeting cards, scrap booking, a musical performance and a historic presentation through the Monmouth County Council for the Humanities, all open to the public. For more information about the club or any of its projects, please contact Linda Babeuf at [www.rumsonwomensclub@gmail.com](mailto:www.rumsonwomensclub@gmail.com). To learn more about the NJSFWC, visit the Federation website at [www.njsfwc.org](http://www.njsfwc.org) or call 732-249-5474



**2010 FLU CLINIC  
TO BE HELD IN RUMSON!  
Stop the flu – before it stops YOU!**

This year Rumson will be hosting a flu/pneumonia clinic provided by the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission. The clinic will be held on **October 12 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Callman Court Building immediately adjacent to Borough Hall at 80 East River Road.**

Immunizations will be offered to persons over 12 years of age. The cost for Non-Medicare eligible participants will be **\$23.00 for the flu shot and \$28.00 for the pneumonia shot.** Eligible Medicare participants having Part B (medical) insurance need just present their Medicare card. **NO OTHER INSURANCE IS ACCEPTED.**

Should we be advised of any schedule change by the MCRHC, we will post it on our website. You may also call Borough Hall at 732-842-3300 as the date approaches to confirm our scheduled date.

**STAY HEALTHY WITHOUT EVEN  
LEAVING TOWN!**

## RUMSON VOLUNTEER EMS

On June 13, the Rumson First Aid Squad helped to sponsor the first annual Kelleher Kid's Triathlon with the Sandy Hookers triathlon organization. The event honored our former Captain, Bob Kelleher, and we held a memorial service at our building after the race. Over 150 kids participated, and everyone really enjoyed the day. We would like to thank the many volunteers who came out to help manage the event, especially our First Aid Squad cadets and members of the RFH girls' swim team, who spent the morning in the Navesink acting as "swim buddies" for the kids!

We would like to congratulate two of our cadets, Trevor Higginson and James Honsa, who were selected as the first recipients of the Robert Kelleher Memorial Scholarship at RFH High School. This scholarship is co-funded by the Rumson PBA and Rumson EMS and will be awarded to a graduating senior(s) who exhibits a strong spirit of volunteerism. Trevor and James split the inaugural award - they have both been volunteering as cadets with our squad since 2009, and since then have participated collectively on roughly 200 emergency calls for assistance. Next year, Trevor will be attending Boston University and James will be attending Stanford University, and we wish them the best of luck.

The Rumson First Aid Squad is an all-volunteer organization, staffed by your friends and neighbors. We are constantly looking for new members to respond to emergency calls and also other citizens who would be willing to lend their talents in aid of the Squad's administration. If you are over the age of 16 and interested in joining us, please visit us at [www.rumsonems.org](http://www.rumsonems.org), email us at [info@rumsonems.org](mailto:info@rumsonems.org), or speak with any of our members!



The Rumson Seniors have had a busy spring! Several of our members took part in the Memorial Day parade, with President Dorothy Burlew and Life Member Bill Scalzo presenting a wreath on behalf of all members.

Our club gives awards to deserving RFH High School seniors whose grandparent or grandparents are a member. This year President Burlew presented such an award to Ainsley Robertson, Jan Annacone's granddaughter.

Buddy Bush was welcomed back following his recent surgery. We also welcomed VP Vivian McCormick back after her successful shoulder surgery. At the final meeting of the season, we celebrated Mary Calabretta's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It is customary to present a very special cake when a member reaches their 90<sup>th</sup>!

Dolores Ryan and Jeanne Cuje co-chaired the Spring Luncheon held at the Salt Creek Grille on June 17. Their committee included Gloria Bush, Lorraine George, Carolyn Ott and Emily Wagner. Mayor John Ekdahl and his wife Lolly were welcomed, as well as former Mayor and Honorary Club Member Chillie Callman. President Burlew presented Past Presidents Jeanne Cuje and Vivian McCormick with their Life Membership cards. These are awarded after 20 years of active service to the club. Jeanne thanked members who live in Rumson's District 3 for helping to re-elect her to another two-year term as Committeewoman. Following a delightful lunch, members were entertained by John Pizzi of JPZ Entertainment. John brought his three life-sized puppets, and members spent the rest of the day laughing at this combination comedian/ventriloquist. Members Art Neuman, Bill Scalzo and Buddy Bush highlighted the day.

Vivian McCormick arranged numerous trips for us throughout the past year. In August we will be traveling to Lancaster, PA to the Sight and Sound Theater to see "Joseph." We will join the Fair Haven Seniors on a three-day trip to Rocking Horse Ranch in New York State in September. We will once again enjoy the Octoberfest in Pamona, NY.

Members extended their condolences to Emily Wagner on the loss of her sister, Margaret Green, Telephone Chairperson; also to Buddy Bush on the loss of his sister, Millie Baumgarth.

The Seniors will resume their regular bi-monthly meetings on September 13 at Wilson Hall, Rumson Presbyterian Church. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month and the annual dues will remain at \$15.00. All residents 55 and over, including their family and friends that live outside Rumson, are welcome to join us for our next year of adventures!

## Plant for the Planet!



No one has forgotten the smothering heat of the month just past. So when you're planting this fall, THINK TREES! They provide shade and shelter AND reduce your yearly heating and cooling costs. Did you know that trees grow by using the carbon from the atmosphere? According to the International Society of Arboriculture, one large tree can absorb as much carbon as is produced by a car driven 26,000 miles

## MAYOR

John E. Ekdahl

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

Shaun P. Broderick  
Benjamin W. Day, Jr.  
Joan P. DeVoe  
Joseph K. Hemphill  
Mark E. Rubin  
Frank E. Shanley

## ADMINISTRATION

Thomas S. Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Administrator  
Hope Richardson, Editor

[www.rumsonnj.gov](http://www.rumsonnj.gov)

## RUMSON BOROUGH HALL

(732) 842-3300

## DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

(732) 842-8941

## CALENDAR

### AUGUST

- 2 Planning Board 7:30 PM
- 8 **FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT VICTORY PARK!**  
**The Fuzzy Lemons 7:00 PM**
- 10 Borough Council 7:30 PM
- 17 Zoning Board 7:30 PM
- 18 Historic Preservation Commission 7:30 PM;
- 18 Recreation Commission 7 PM
- 22 **FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT VICTORY PARK!**  
**Polka Dot 7:00 PM**
- 24 Borough Council 7:30 PM

### SEPTEMBER

- 6 **LABOR DAY BOROUGH OFFICES CLOSED -**  
**NO GARBAGE COLLECTION!**
- 8 Shade Tree Comm. 4:00 PM Borough Hall
- 13 Senior Citizens 11:30 AM Rumson Presbyterian Church
- 13 Planning Board 7:30 PM
- 14 Borough Council 7:30 PM
- 15 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM
- 21 Zoning Board 7:30 PM
- 27 Senior Citizens 11:30 AM Rumson Presbyterian Church
- 28 Borough Council 7:30 PM

### OCTOBER

- 4 Planning Board 7:30 PM
- 11 **COLUMBUS DAY - Borough offices CLOSED.**  
**GARBAGE WILL BE COLLECTED**
- 11 Senior Citizens 11:00 AM Rumson Presbyterian Church
- 12 Borough Council 7:30 PM
- 19 Zoning Board 7:30
- 20 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM
- 20 Historic Preservation Commission 7:30 PM
- 25 Senior Citizens 11:30 AM Rumson Presbyterian Church
- 26 Borough Council 7:30 PM

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# RUMSON BOROUGH BULLETIN

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