



## From the Director



Webster's defines serendipity as the faculty of making valuable discoveries by accident. This lovely word happens to be one of my favorites, as it defines one of the most underrated but common happenstances in public libraries.

How many times have you gone to the Library on a mission, determined to find the answer to a specific question, the value of a certain stock on a given day, the lyrics to a particular song from the 1960s? And maybe while you were on your way to the answer you got –sidetracked! Ambushed! Accosted by a happy and accidental discovery! Libraries are about many things, and, as a library administrator, my time and attention is divided between many practical concerns

– our budget, human resources, online databases, networks, policy writing, the building and on and on.

But my heart belongs to books. I am drawn to the stacks, never completely certain of what I am looking for, but completely sure that I will find something wonderful. For example, last fall I was in Cape May for the weekend. To my surprise the local newspaper was full of accounts of the annual monarch butterfly migration. This was indeed news to me. Fast forward to the next workweek, and I am wandering through our stacks. The following title practically leaped off the shelf into my amazed hands, Four Wings and a Prayer: caught in the mystery of the monarch butterfly. Serendipity!

I love the Internet as much as anybody. I am typing this using Word and have no nostalgic memories of typewriters or #2 pencils. I think electronic resource sharing is great economy, I want the laptop with the latest bells and whistles in my office, I think our System Administrator is a technological wizard with a sprinkling of genius.

But my heart belongs to books. From the time I was the President of my first-grade class's Library Club, I have been seduced, entranced and in awe of scholarship, research, reading, and the dry feel of paper in my hands. I want to hold something heavy and square, and I'm afraid I just can't cotton to cuddling up under the covers with a laptop.

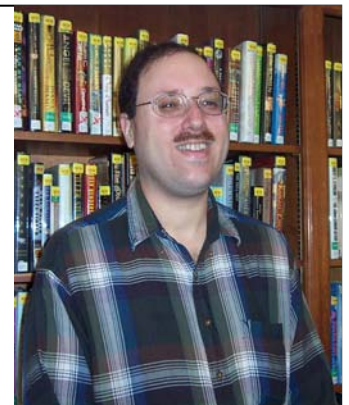
Nancy Byouk Hammeke, Executive Director of the Abington Township Public Library

## Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Jim Alfreds. He's the one who always gives a friendly greeting. He's been a volunteer here since 1997 shelving books and shelf reading.

He was born in Philadelphia and adopted into a family in Bensalem. In high school he wrote poetry and essays and was in the honor society in math. He played tenor saxophone and clarinet in the High School Bucks County Band. Jim sings tenor and bass in his Lutheran Church choir with his dad.

Recently, Jim became a paid worker at the Library. Our volunteers have always been a great source for future employees. Welcome to our staff!





## at Your Service!

For more information: 215-885-5180 ext. 13

At the center of the library under the big purple and gold Information sign is the Information Reference Desk. A reference librarian is here to help you all 65 hours we are open weekly.

Some services available from Reference:

- Booklists—the bestsellers, the classics, the mysteries, the summer beach reading.
- Books, videos, music CDs, books on tape, DVDs, magazines. Our job is to provide Abington citizens with information and recreational reading to go! (But no fries with that)
- Internet instruction—ask us about our classes.
- Holds placed on checked-out books. We will track it down and get it to you.
- If you need a book we do not own, we will borrow it for you through Interlibrary Loan.
- Answers provided: Do you have a business question? Need some consumer information, or have a health concern? Our reference books are current, and have the information you need. We use the Internet every day for answers.
- Do you need a suggestion for a good thriller, a mystery, a biography or that book on American history? We are here to help.

## From Roslyn Branch Library

For more information: 215-886-9818 or [abg.mclinc.org/aplros.htm](http://abg.mclinc.org/aplros.htm)

**SUMMER READING CLUB** is open to preschool & elementary school children.

**PRESCHOOL FUN DAYS** for ages **3-6**: Tues., 10-10:30 a.m. July 2-Aug. 6.  
Registration begins June 10.

**Roslyn READS!** Young adults and beginner readers listen to stories read aloud and practice reading aloud. Mondays 1:30 - 2:30 or 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. June 24 thru Aug. 19.



The Roslyn Branch  
Library is fun!

**PRESCHOOL FUN DAYS** for ages **2-3**: Thurs., 10-10:30 a.m. July 11 - Aug. 8. Registration begins June 10th

### LITERARY LUNCHES

**3rd or 4th grade** Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. July 3, 17 & 31. Registration begins June 19.

**5th, 6th or 7th grade** Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. July 10, 24 & Aug. 7 Registration begins June 26.

**SUMMER FUN DAYS** These programs with popular performers are for children ages 5 and up Wednesdays in July and August from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Registration required.

Schools and preschool or daycare providers are welcome to call to arrange a visit to the Branch.

# Calendar of Events for Adults

For more information: 215-885-5180, ext. 15 or [abg.mclinc.org/calendar.htm](http://abg.mclinc.org/calendar.htm)

## "BE A STAR @ YOUR LIBRARY" TALENT SHOW

Wed., July 24, 7-8 p.m. Performers of all ages welcome. See separate flyer for details. Registration to **participate** in show begins June 17. Registration to **attend** show begins July 15. Please call (215) 885-5180, ext. 28, or stop by the Children's Department to register.

## PARENT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Learn parenting tips & tools and meet other parents in the community. Led by two certified parenting educators from The Parenting Center at Abington. No need to purchase or read the book in advance.

Aug. 5, 10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Without Spanking or Spoiling: A Practical Approach to Toddler and Preschool Guidance by Elizabeth Crary. Registration begins Mon., July 22.

A special story time will be held for children ages 3 and up. Advance registration is required. Children 2 and under will attend the group with their parent.

Please call (215) 885-5180, ext. 28, or stop by the Children's Department to register.

## DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - Every 1st Thurs. 1 p.m.

July 11 - Daughter of Fortune by Isabel Allende

Aug. 1 - Business Meeting

Sept. 6 - In the Memory of the Forest by Charles T. Powers



## OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - Every 2nd Tues. 7-8:45 p.m.

July 9 - An explanation and demonstration of Preserving Genealogical Artifacts

Aug. 13 - Discussion Night - Locating Church Records.

Sept. 10 - Genetics and Genealogy

## ADULT LITERACY

Monday, August 12, 2002-Tutor Support Meeting 7 p.m.. Computer hardware and software. This Works for Me. Continuing education.

Wednesday, September 18, 2002-Tutor Support Meeting 7 p.m.. The GED 2002- Everything you want to know about the GED. Continuing education.

## WORLD WAR II LECTURE SERIES - Every 3rd Tues. at 3 & 7 p.m.

June 18 - Infantryman in Italy-Prisoner in Germany

July 16 - Hiding from the Nazis in Belgium


Sept. 17 - Trained in the States, sent to Arctic

Reservations are required! Limited seating, call early 215-885-5180, ext. 15.

Call Don Lee at 215-659-5594 for information.

# For Teens

★ contact Mary Alice Briggs-Dicker at 215-885-5180, ext. 13 or [abg.mclinc.org/YA\\_Programs.htm](http://abg.mclinc.org/YA_Programs.htm)

★  Volunteer to help kindergarten-2nd graders practice reading from June 24-Aug. 15. Sign up begins May 28. A one-hour workshop on read-aloud techniques will be held on June 19 at 7 p.m.



Great Reads, Friends, and Desserts.

Sign up - Pick up the book - Read - Tell us what you think.

July 11 @ 7 p.m. Silent to the Bone by E. L. Konigsburg

July 25 @ 7 p.m. Hope Was Here by Joan Bauer

Aug. 8 @ 7 p.m. Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli



(a creative journaling adventure) Junior/Senior High. Each week we'll play around with different art materials and ways to get your words and pictures on paper. July 5-26 at 10 a.m. Sign up begins June 17.

# From the Children's Department

For more information: 215-885-5180, ext. 28 or [abg.mclinc.org/aplkids.htm](http://abg.mclinc.org/aplkids.htm)

**Parent Book Discussion Group** - See Adult Programs at Abington Library on page 3.

**Science in the Summer!** - June 24 - 27 - grades 1-2 and grades 3-5

**Abington READS!** - June 24 - Aug. 15 - grades K-2 and Junior-Senior High

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM!** Bring your children in to register starting June 17.

**Preschool Fun Days** July 2, 16 & 30 for ages 2-3

**Junior Fun Days** July 1, 15 & 29 for ages 4-6



The Irish Dance Program at the Library had 75 children leaping.

## SUMMER WORKSHOPS

**ART ESCAPE** (Ages 6-10) Thurs., 7-8 p.m., July 18-**ORIGAMI**-Registration begins July 8.  
July 25-**MOBILES**-Registration begins July 15. Aug. 1-**DREAMING MASKS**-Registration begins July 22.

**WRITING FOR FUN** (Ages 8-11) Tuesday, July 23, 30, and Aug. 6. Registration begins July 8.

**PAPER MAGIC: ORIGAMI WITH STORYTELLING** (Ages 7-12) Wed., July 24, 2-3 p.m. Registration begins July 15.

**CALLIGRAPHY and YOU** (Ages 8-12) Wed., July 31, 1:30-2:15 p.m. Registration begins July 22.

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

**BOOK BUDDIES** - 2nd or 3rd grade. Thurs., 12:15-1:15 p.m. July 11 - 25. Registration begins July 1.

**LITERARY LUNCHES** - 4th or 5th grade. Wed, 12:15-1:15 p.m. July 10 - 24. Registration begins June 28.

**LITERARY DESSERTS** - 6th or 7th grade. Mon, 6:15-7:15 p.m. July 8 - 29. Registration begins June 28.

## FAMILY FUN NIGHTS FOR AGES 3 & UP

**CELEBRATE AMERICA** Wed., July 3, 7-8 p.m. Registration begins June 24.

**CATCH THE MAGIC** Wed., July 10, 7-8 p.m. Registration begins July 1

**"BE A STAR @ YOUR LIBRARY" TALENT SHOW** Wed., July 24, 7-8 p.m.

Performers of all ages welcome. See separate flyer for details.

Registration to **participate** in show begins June 17. Registration to **attend** show begins July 15.

**SPOTLIGHT ON COMEDY** Wed., July 31, 7-7:45 p.m. Registration begins July 22.

**DRAWINGS & SONGS WITH DAVID PERRY** Wed., July 17, 7-8 p.m. Registration begins July 8.

**LIGHTS! CAMERA! PUPPETS!** Wed., Aug. 7, 7-8 p.m. Registration begins July 29.

**PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTY** - ages 3-5. Wed., Aug. 14, 7-7:30 p.m. No pre-registration required.



# From the Friends

For more information: 215-885-5180, ext. 36 or [abg.mclinc.org/aplfrnd.htm](http://abg.mclinc.org/aplfrnd.htm)

Ever wondered who the Friends of the Library are and what they do? The Friends is a non-profit, tax-deductible group that raises funds & serves as an advocate for the Library. All the "Friends" are volunteers, money raised by the Friends supports Library programs.

Bake sales, jewelry, totebag and T-shirt sales along with the used book store (The BookCellar) are all fund-raising projects of the Friends of Abington Library. The Friends provide a rewarding and enjoyable community service.

The Friends meet the second Monday of every month. Everyone is welcome!

**BOOKCELLAR**



Ilse helps at the BookCellar

# Unforgettable Books

When asked, "What's your favorite book or book that changed your life?" this is what staff said.

Nancy Byouk Hammeke - "The Caine Mutiny by Herman Wouk changed my life for two reasons: first, the story is fascinating - an excellent treatment of WWII, military service and a military trial. Secondly, it was my father's favorite book, so it provided a common bond and interest for us. When he died, my mother gave me his copy, and nothing could mean more to me."

Bill Boone - "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain by Betty Edwards showed me how important hand to eye coordination is in drawing."

Deanna Collins - "Noah's Garden: restoring the ecology of our own back yards by Sara Stein helped me reconsider the way I plant and garden on my property and to begin to restore the delicate balance of native plants, birds, beneficial insects and small creatures."

Andy Simpson - "The Notebook, by Nicholas Sparks - This is a touching story set in a nursing home about growing old and a couple's relationship."

Betty Honza - "Kahlil Gibran's works, specifically The Prophet. Also The Mind's Sky: human intelligence in a cosmic context by Timothy Ferris because he makes you think in ways you haven't thought before. This book discusses quarks and reality, microcosms and macrocosms and being in the exact center of the smallest thing and the largest thing. Half of the book is about finding intelligent life in the universe or SETI"

Karen Byrne - "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain. My mother read it to us every summer for years. We dreamed about that trip down the Mississippi, were with Huck and Jim in storm and trouble and learned about injustice and friendship. Life is a journey, and it started on the river."

Karen Burnham - "It was difficult choosing between Diet for a Small Planet, by Frances Moore Lappe and One Straw Revolution, by Masanobu Fukuoka. Fukuoka's book edged ahead. It mirrored my thinking regarding the recuperative powers of nature, if left alone. He's a scientist who writes like a storyteller. He must smile when he writes."

Jeanne Zucker - "Close to Shore: A True Story of Terror in an Age of Innocence by Michael Capuzzo. This book is about a series of shark attacks at the Jersey Shore just before W.W.I. The Circus Fire: A True Story by Stewart O'Nan. This book is about a serious fire that took place at a circus in Hartford, Connecticut in 1944. Both of these books are amazing - the people, places, sights and sounds are all recreated vividly. The authors do a wonderful job of showing how these horrible events affected the people involved, then and now. They're more than history -- I now feel connected to the people and places involved."

T.R. Seiler - "Little Women by Louisa May Alcott showed how a family could pull together in times of adversity. You don't have to have money to survive."

Jackie Guyton - "Praise the Human Season by Don Robertson is my favorite book. The two main characters, Howard and Anne, have a steadfast love that transcends everything, which is how I look at my relationship with my husband. The story is funny, poignant, and in spots, very sad, but so worth reading."

Lois Odabas - "Probably my favorite book is Burger's Daughter, by Nadine Gordimer. Set in South Africa in the time of apartheid, it chronicles one young woman's struggle to come to grips with her political responsibility to humanity, even as she struggles to understand her own personal humanity. The questions this novel raises still resonate in my life and probably always will."

Karla Bishop - "My choice for best book is The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis because it depicts the magic of the ordinary becoming extraordinary and one's ability to rise to the challenge."



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### Abington Free Library

1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001  
215-885-5180, <http://abg.mclinc.org>

Circulation Desk	ext. 10
Information Desk	ext. 13
Children's Department	ext. 28
Executive Director	ext. 14
Adult Literacy	ext. 27
Friends of the Library	ext. 36

#### Hours

Mon.-Fri. 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sun. 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### Roslyn Branch Library

2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001  
215-886-9818, <http://abg.mclinc.org/aplros.htm>

#### Hours

Mon. 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Tues., Thurs., Sat. 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Fri. 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Staff Spotlight

Meet Mimi Satterthwaite, the Automation Coordinator for the Library. She keeps the computers running, connected to MCLINC, up to date and virus free. That's more than 50 computers! She is the expert on our multimedia equipment hook up to the laptop. She teaches staff about computers and the databases from the POWER Library, (accessible from the Library's website, <http://abg.mclinc.org>), she helps on the website, and she's part-time!

There's more to Mimi than computers. She grew up in Philadelphia with her sister, Susan. She majored in Medieval History at Smith College and spent a year studying in Italy. Back in the states, she worked at the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston where she found she wanted to be a librarian. Off she went to Columbia University to earn her MLS. When she and her husband started a family, she moved out of academia and city life to a public library system in the suburbs (lucky for Abington!)

Now she lives in Jenkintown with her husband Jeff, a chemist, and their children: Nick 8, and Mary 5. They're an active family with many interests, including camping, working around their home and making their own crafts. Nick is accomplished in Aikido and origami while Mary loves ballet and painting.

As you see, Mimi's very capable. What we see is she's always smiling, helpful and coming up with brilliant solutions. Mimi is a delightful co-worker.

