

Thrall Library Times

What's New & Interesting at Middletown Thrall Library!

Summer 2011 Issue

"On life's vast ocean diversely we sail..." – Alexander Pope

From Matt Pfisterer Director of Middletown Thrall Library

True Friends

There is an old expression that says, "The greatest gift is not found in a store or under a tree but in the hearts of true friends." Here at the Library we are very fortunate to have a wonderful group of friends.

The Friends of Middletown Thrall Library operates the used bookstore that is adjacent to the Library building. Everybody knows that the bookstore is the place to go if you are looking for a truly remarkable collection of used books, CDs, cassettes, movies in VHS or DVD format at an incredible discount.

What you might not know is that proceeds from the sale of Friends merchandise goes to support the Library. The Friends support the Library through the purchase of furniture and equipment, library materials, and popular programs for children and adults. The Friends recently purchased a Wii gaming system for the Library much to the delight of young people who have attended our Wii gaming programs. The Friends also sponsor the popular Winter / Spring concert series whose performances have delighted the community with a broad variety of musical genres and styles.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation for the continuing support the Library receives from the Friends of Middletown Thrall. If you are interested in learning more about the group, exploring volunteering opportunities or becoming a member of this outstanding organization please call the bookstore at 344-1255. The bookstore is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM, and on Saturdays from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

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MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, New York 10940

Matt Pfisterer, Library Director

Summer Hours: Monday – Thursday: 9 AM – 8 PM
Fri: 9 AM - 6 PM Sat: 10 AM – 2 PM Sun: Closed

Main Desk: (845) 341-5454 **Reference Librarians:** 341-5461

Youth Services: 341-5470 **Local History:** 341-5483

Adult Programs and Book Discussions: 341-5485

For more news and free services, please visit www.thrall.org

(From the Director continued)

Some Friendly Reminders

Summer is here, and we are enjoying a large community attendance and participation in our annual Summer Reading program. Please take note of the following Library policies:

- No loitering in the building or on Library grounds
- Cell phone use is prohibited in the Library
- Please do not leave minor children unattended
- Adults with infants or children in strollers are requested to use the computers in the children's room on the Library's second floor.
- Short term internet computers are available on a first come first served basis. If you need extended internet access, consider obtaining a Library card and using one of the Library's one hour internet terminals
- Please be quiet in the Library's reading room

Your compliance with these policies will help to ensure a pleasant and productive library experience for everyone. Thank you.

From Our Head of Reference Mary Susan Flannery Climes

Music to Your Ears

Aspiring and experienced musicians will be pleased to hear we are expanding our print collection of music theory and practice books.

These titles (soon to be found near/between the Dewey numbers of 786.2 and 796) range from basic learning to the advanced skills with particular focus on the piano as well as acoustic / electric guitar playing. A variety of genres are covered: classical, blues, jazz, pop, rock.

For online researchers, we also expanded our Music information guide (www.thrall.org/music) to include a number of free and informative music education resources.

You are encouraged to explore our *existing* music education materials in those shelving areas as well the **circular display** located by our **classical, jazz, and wellness music collections**. While there, browse and check out some CDs!

We also invite members of Thrall to enjoy our many licensed **music databases** (at www.thrall.org/databases), including **African American Song, American Song, Classical Music Library, Contemporary World Music, Great Musicians, Jazz Music Library, and Smithsonian Global Sound**.

If you have a **computer with Internet access**, all you have to do is visit our Databases page, select a music database, and login with your **library card number**. Then you can start listening to music from all around the world – **all for free!**

(From Our Head of Reference continued)

New: *Critical Survey of Poetry*

We recently acquired the impressive and comprehensive *Critical Survey of Poetry* encyclopedia set, which contains fourteen-volumes published by Salem Press, who describes this resource as follows:

"The Fourth Edition includes all poets from the previous edition and adds 146 new ones, covering 845 poets in total. Altogether, the writers covered in this set represent more than 40 countries and the history of poetry from antiquity to the 21st century. The set also offers 72 informative overviews; 20 of these essays were added for this edition, including all the literary movement essays. Author portraits are included as available."

Volumes in this set include:

- *American Poets*
- *British, Irish, & Commonwealth Poets*
- *European Poets*
- *World Poets*
- *Cumulative Indexes, Poetry*
- *Topical Essays, Poetry*

This set also includes a pronunciation guide for poets' names, a glossary of poetical terms, lists of major awards, a time line, a chronological list of poets, and a geographical and category indexes.

At approximately 6,500 pages, this illustrated resource can be found on the Literary Criticism shelves near our Reference Department at this call number: **REF 809.1 CRI**.

Online researchers with an active Middletown Thrall Library card can access this publication through our website by visiting our **Databases page** (www.thrall.org/databases), clicking on **Literature**, then clicking on **Salem Literature**.

Online Reference Update:

Literature Criticism Online

Thrall's Virtual Reference Library (www.thrall.org/vrl) now contains all of the following volumes within *Literature Criticism Online*:

- *Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism*
- *Contemporary Literary Criticism*
- *Drama Criticism*
- *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*
- *Poetry Criticism*
- *Shakespearean Criticism*
- *Short Story Criticism*
- *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*

Print editions of these works continue to be available in our Reference Department.

Now on Display...

Our two latest adult book displays are:

- "The Soul of Wit: Short Story Collections"
- "Stories in the Sun: Fiction Set in Summertime"

The first display can be found near our **periodical room**, while the second is near our **library catalog computers** next to the stairs to the second floor. Please come in, browse, and check out whatever appeals to you.

The U.S. "Debt Ceiling" Debate

(www.thrall.org/special)

In an effort to help you learn more about the history and issues surrounding the **U.S. national debt** and debates concerning the so-called "debt ceiling," we have updated our **Special Coverage Center** to include a variety of informative sources, time lines, government information, news websites, articles, and other key documents available both online and within our local library system.

From Our Government Information Center Thrall Depository Spotlight

Middletown Thrall Library has been a Federal Depository Library since 1986, disseminating U.S. Government information to the American public as one of 1,250 such libraries throughout the United States.

The Government Printing Office (GPO) writes, "Since 1813, depository libraries safeguarded the public's right to know by collecting, organizing, maintaining, preserving, and assisting users with information from the Federal Government."

Each month GPO chooses a particular Depository to spotlight, highlighting its unique services. We are very honored to have been chosen for the month of July 2011!

Saluting Atlantis

(www.thrall.org/blogs)

Our **Science and Technology blog** provides both an overview of Atlantis' final mission as well as an overview of NASA's exciting and revolutionary Space Shuttle program. Also included in our blog are links to related library items as well as NASA's answers to the question of "what comes next" now that their Shuttle fleet has been officially retired.

"Reel Eclectic" Film Series

Our independent and international film series continues in 2011 on these dates at **7 PM**: **August 4, September 1, October 6, November 3, December 1**

"Afternoon Movies for Grown-Ups" 2011

Our series of "something-for-everyone" films continues in 2011 on the following dates at **2 PM**: **Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21.**

"Come Draw with Me!"

On **Saturdays** for ages **7 to 12**. Limit of 15 members of Thrall Library. **Registration required.** Upcoming themes:

August 6	12 - 1 PM	"Red Cardinals"
September 10	12 - 1 PM	"Yellow School Bus"
October 8	1 - 2 PM	"Frankenstein"
November 5	1 - 2 PM	"Cornucopia"
December 3	12 - 1 PM	"Doves"

Game Days at Thrall

Join us for Game Days the **first Friday of each month** starting **May 6** from **4 PM to 6 PM**: October 7, November 4, December 2. We will have games for all ages! Please Note for August and September there are no First Friday Gaming nights. For more information, please visit the Children's Department or call **341-5470**.