

# RE:refresh!

## Reference Service News from Middletown Thrall Library

August / September 2013

FREE!

*"You know more of a road by having traveled it than by all the conjectures and descriptions in the world." – William Hazlitt*

Welcome to **RE:refresh!** This is where Middletown Thrall Library's Reference Department updates you on its latest efforts to empower you with the **best research tools and resources** currently available! Online editions of **RE:refresh!** can be downloaded from our website at [thrall.org/refresh](http://thrall.org/refresh)

### Ready Reference Center News

[www.thrall.org/readyref](http://www.thrall.org/readyref)

We recently added a new section for **Botany**, the scientific study of plants. We also revised and expanded our **Gardening and Plants** directory so you can quickly locate books or websites about gardens, organic gardening, landscapes, trees, weeds, among other related topics.

Our **Automobiles** section has numerous additions and has been restructured to cover topics such as, Auto Care and Repair, Auto Shows, "Best Car" Lists, Buying / Leasing / Selling Vehicles, History, Owners Manuals, Terminology, Vehicle Safety and Inspections, and Vehicle Values.

Our **Computers** directory now includes convenient links to documents and support pages from major manufacturers.

As is true for *all* topics in the Ready Reference Center, you can explore both our directory of select Web resources as *well* as subjects within the library system catalog.

### Literature for Students Updates

[www.thrall.org/databases](http://www.thrall.org/databases)

So we can provide complete access to these great literary reference works online, we acquired *all previous volumes* for the following research guides for students:

- **Drama for Students**
- **Novels for Students**
- **Poetry for Students**
- **Short Stories for Students**

Each volume or set can be browsed or searched online by members of Thrall.

### Thrall Reference Services

Mary Susan Flannery Climes, Head of Reference  
Call our reference librarians: (845) 341-5461  
or ask a librarian *online*: [www.thrall.org/ask](http://www.thrall.org/ask)  
Reference Blog: [www.thrall.org/refblog](http://www.thrall.org/refblog)  
Information Guides: [www.thrall.org/guides](http://www.thrall.org/guides)

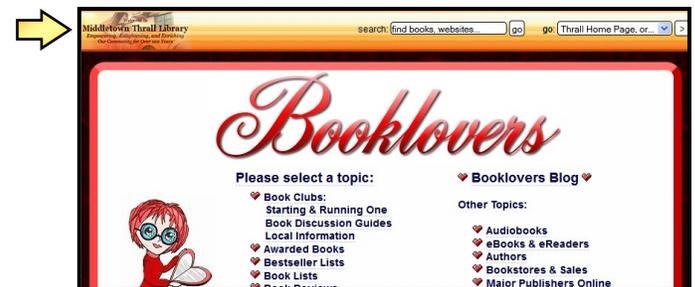
### Library Website Updates

[www.thrall.org](http://www.thrall.org)

Over the past several months we have worked to make it much easier for you to navigate library services and enjoy the many great resources available at our library's website.

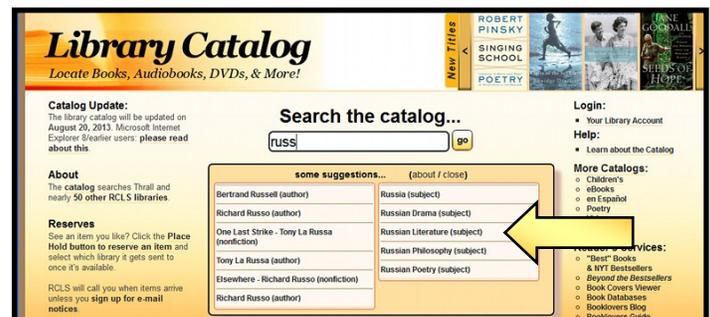
We have established a new **online calendar** so you can quickly identify (and, hopefully, plan to attend) free public events at our library. You can reach our calendar through our home page or by going to [www.thrall.org/calendar](http://www.thrall.org/calendar)

A **navigation bar** now appears on all of our pages so you can quickly reach key library services and information:



Our **navigation bar** also includes a **search box**, which lets you locate **library items, websites, databases**, and more!

When **searching** via our home page or Thrall's very own library catalog search page, watch for **suggested titles, topics, or authors** as you type...



## Library Website Updates (continued)

When searching “all resources” from our home page, or when searching our guides (at [www.thrall.org/guides](http://www.thrall.org/guides)) you will encounter **two new menus**: a **search refiner** if you search for a very general topic, such as “history”...

**Refining Your Search...**

Guide(s) you should explore:

- American History
- Local History & Genealogy Resources
- Ready Reference: History

Other subtopic(s) to consider:

African-American History History Databases Local History Department at Thrall Timelines	Government Information: Historic Documents History of Thrall (1901-1996) New York State: History Women's History
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Some library items of possible interest:

The Encyclopedia of American History (REF 980.003 ENC)	The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Daily Life in America (REF 973.03 GRE)
The Thirties / Forties / Fifties / etc. in America (REF 973.92)	

For "everything" else... please click [here](#) to continue searching our resource guides.

...or a **search options** menu:

looking for:

**Continue your search in...**

- the library catalog
- information guides
- blog posts
- children's catalog
- databases + encyclopedias
- eBooks catalog
- historic photos
- local organizations
- RAVES! reviews from readers
- thrall.org website
- videos (DVDs)

**...or explore topics in the Library Catalog**

- Aerospace
- Amateurs and Astronomy
- Apollo Spacecraft
- Astronomical Instruments
- Astronautics
- Astronauts
- Astronomers
- Astronomers - Biography
- Astronomical Observatories
- Astronomy - Amateurs' Manuals
- Astronomy - Dictionaries
- Astronomy - Encyclopedias
- Astronomy - Fiction
- Astronomy - History
- Astrophysics
- Black Holes

**...or see some possible matches + Web resources from our Information Guides... (view all results from our guides)**

**Ready Reference Center - browse this guide**  
**Space Exploration - Rockets - Satellites - Space Shuttles and Probes - explore this topic:**

1. Canadian Space Agency - Past, current, and future space missions developed by Canada....
2. China National Space Administration (CNSA) - Past, current, and future space missions developed by China....
3. European Space Agency (ESA) - Past, current, and future space missions. Includes images, maps, and illustrations....
4. French Space Agency (Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales - CNES) - France's space program. Includes news, missions, and more....
5. German Aerospace Center (DLR) - Germany's space program. Includes news, missions, and more....
6. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - India's space program. Includes news, missions, and more....
7. Italian Space Agency (Agenzia Spaziale Italiana) - Italy's space program. Includes news, missions, and more....
8. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) - Past, current, and future space missions developed by Japan....
9. NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) -

These menus are intended to help you pinpoint specific informational items (books, articles, websites, etc.) and to enable you to explore related topics in the library catalog.

We also developed new **Library Catalog Help Pages**, which you reach via the **help** link on our home page (top/center column on the **Library Catalog** line). Here you can learn more about **checking your library account**, registering for **e-mail notification**, **finding items** in the catalog, **renewing** and **reserving items**, **finest**, and more.

## Library System Update

On **August 20, 2013**, our local library system (RCLS) will soon upgrade the library catalog (Enterprise) to address some technical issues in the catalog. SirsiDynix, the company providing Enterprise, has indicated:

- The new version of Enterprise (4.3) no longer supports **Microsoft Internet Explorer 8 or earlier versions**.
- Some features of the updated catalog might not work properly in Internet Explorer 8 or earlier.

Please see our **Reference blog** at [www.thrall.org/refblog](http://www.thrall.org/refblog) for more information and potential solutions.

## New Databases

[www.thrall.org/databases](http://www.thrall.org/databases)

**Novelist Plus** adds **nonfiction** suggestions to *Novelist's* fiction reading recommendations for all ages. It includes read-alike lists, some book discussion guides, information on many fiction series, and more. There's also a version for younger readers: **Novelist Plus K-8**.

**Novelist Plus** has also been partially integrated with the **library system catalog**: when you view a book in the catalog (by clicking on its cover or title), you can review **reading recommendations** related to the book (whenever they're available). You'll find them in a new expandable tab ("**You May Also Like**") on the book's information page.

**Gannet Newsstand** is a newspaper database which includes articles and abstracts from various regional newspapers including *Ithaca Journal*, *The Journal News* (Rockland and Westchester Counties), *The Poughkeepsie Journal*, *Press and Sun-Bulletin* (Binghamton), *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, *Star-Gazette* (Elmira), and more.

**Elibrary Elementary** offers access to "more than 390 magazines, newspapers, books, and transcripts plus thousands of maps, images, educator-approved websites from Homework Central, and audio/video titles."

**Kids InfoBits** is "designed especially for students in kindergarten through grade five. Complete with an engaging, developmentally appropriate graphic interface, premier reference content and the best magazines for elementary students, *Kids InfoBits* addresses the way kids learn and conduct research - and makes it fun!"

To access any of these databases, please visit **thrall.org** and click on **Databases** – or go to the website above.

## Video Browser & Blog

[www.thrall.org/videos](http://www.thrall.org/videos)

Our video browser has been visually enhanced to feature major monthly movie releases:

**Videos in the Catalog**  
Classic Cinema, Contemporary Films, and More

About Reserves Movie Guides RSS Login Ask Us!

Recent releases...   More releases...

Thrall videos only audience: any date: any

Browse New Videos (notable DVD / Blu-ray releases):  
browse all recent video releases or:

See the movie? Read the book!  
Find a book in the catalog:

**More Browse Options...**  
You can also browse video titles and topics in or beyond the library system catalog.

1. Please select a browse option:  the library catalog  
 Common Sense Media (?)  IMDb (?)  
 Metacritic (?)  MRQE (?)

2. Next, please select a topic below:

Actors & Addresses:

Documentaries:

Characters from Children's Videos:

Drama:

Characters from Feature Films:

Fantasy:

Click any title to search the library system catalog instantly!

Our **Beyond the Box Office** blog (at [www.thrall.org/btbo](http://www.thrall.org/btbo)) highlights major film / television releases on DVD/Blu-ray, enables you to locate video titles within the library catalog, and also offers links to **MRQE** (*Movie Review Query Engine*) and **IMDB** (*Internet Movie Database*) so you can locate movie reviews and other details about each video.