

A photograph of a wooden rocking chair in a forest. The chair is positioned in the lower center of the frame, facing away from the viewer. The ground is covered in a thick layer of fallen, brown and yellow leaves. In the background, there are many trees with bare branches, suggesting an autumn or winter setting. The lighting is soft and natural, creating a serene atmosphere.

2014 - 2015
Annual Report

South Jersey Culture & History Center



GALLOWAY IN 1872. Selection from *Topographical Map of Atlantic Co., New Jersey: from recent and actual surveys*. New York: Beers, Comstock & Cline, 1872. Lake Fred is west of Hewittville, upper left. This map, see inset, was donated to the Bjork Library by Mark Demitroff and Paul Schopp. Restored with 2020 funds.

South Jersey Culture & History Center

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MARTHA FURNACE. Cover photo, April, 2015.

Martha Furnace, located on the Oswego branch of the Wading River in Burlington County, was a flourishing complex during the first four decades of the nineteenth century. At the height of its productivity, it made about 750 tons of iron castings annually. It employed approximately sixty hands, who with their families, made a "population of 400 souls." Today, to the untrained eye, nothing survives. The Pines have reclaimed virtually all of Martha.

South Jersey Culture &
History Center
2014 - 2015



WORKERS HOUSES & MANSION, Batsto Village, Burlington County, 2014.

First an iron furnace and then a glass manufactory, Batsto Village provided housing and village services for its workers, such as a post office and general store. The workers' dwellings, seen from the rear, rented for \$2 a month in 1878. In the background, dominating the village, is the Wharton-era mansion. Tim Chivalette, Class of '15, photographer, November 2, 2014.

SOUTH JERSEY CULTURE & HISTORY CENTER

The South Jersey Culture & History Center at Stockton University, founded in 2011, seeks to educate students and the general public about South Jersey's unique heritage. Dominated by the Pine Barrens; bordered east and south by shore towns; north and west by historic settlement along the Delaware River and Bay – South Jersey has unusually rich environmental and ethnic heritages. The Center provides opportunities for Stockton students, both undergraduate and graduate, to study and better understand the significance of our region. Students enroll in internships and independent studies, and the occasional course focused on South Jersey's culture and history. They are encouraged, along with the local community, to explore their own (metaphorical) back yard.

The Center is developing relationships with local historical societies, museums, and cultural organizations. The goal is to facilitate communication and cooperation among these organizations, thus strengthening development of area studies within South Jersey. We are bringing together community stakeholders to create a network of shared expertise, mutual support, dissemination, and historical preservation.

Initially, the SJCHC director, professor Tom Kinsella, operated the Center with only the aid of student interns, students working on independent study projects, and graduate assistants. In August 2014, professional historian Paul W. Schopp joined Tom as the associate director of the Center, working 20 hours per week. Paul arrived at Stockton with over 40 years of experience working in the local history field and is a well-known

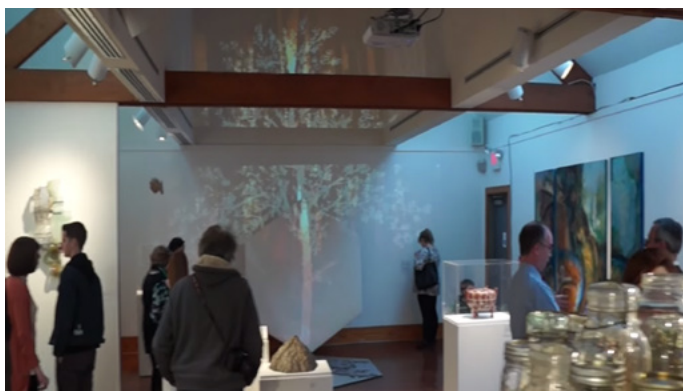
expert in New Jersey history. As a result of this collaborative effort, SJCHC has greatly expanded its ability to fulfill its mission during the 2014-2015 academic year: to support, research, record, publish, publicize and celebrate the heritage of South Jersey. Student activities have included working on a major exhibition at the Noyes Museum in Oceanville; digitizing Hammonton history and the Buzby General Store Collection; interning at Whitesbog and the Rancocas Nature Center; and producing biopic films of various people involved in the history and culture of South Jersey. The Center continues to produce quality publications of lasting value to those seeking to know more about our area.

Within the Stockton community, SJCHC has widened its curricular base, working with students from the COMM, AMST, and LITT programs. Tom and Paul continue to reach out to other academic programs, looking to expand these intra-university efforts, and welcome, indeed, encourage participation from all quarters of the University.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PINE BARRENS: LIFE AND LEGENDS Exhibition

Over the past academic year, SJCHC has partnered with the Noyes Museum to curate the highly successful exhibition, *PINE BARRENS: LIFE AND LEGENDS* (January 30 – September 13, 2015). Stockton students provided significant help throughout the planning, research, and creation phases. Composed of historic images, primarily drawn from the Library of Congress and the Paul W. Schopp collections, and artifacts and original artwork, much of which was created specifically for the show, the exhibition filled an entire gallery at the Noyes.



Over 250 people attended the formal opening of the exhibition, held on February 7, 2015, an amazing metric that demonstrates the high level of interest in the history and culture of South Jersey. Daily attendance since the opening has remained strong for the exhibition.



Most citizens of New Jersey have a passing knowledge of the Pines and of the Jersey Devil, its most famous legend. This exhibition digs deeper, presenting an overview of Pinelands history, describing common ways of life, and sampling the rich oral traditions of the place, most notably those recorded by anthropologist Herbert Halpert. This historical commentary is paired with contemporary artwork inspired by the Pines.



In conjunction with the Noyes Museum, and working closely with Dorrie Papademetriou and Saskia Schmidt, the SJCHC sponsored six well-attended events in support of the exhibition. These included:

➤ Associate director Paul W. Schopp presented “A Taste of Pine Wine: Four Samplings Poured from the *PINE BARRENS: LIFE AND LEGENDS* Exhibition” on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. The audience for this talk completely overwhelmed the gallery and spilled into the common area. More than 65 people attended as Paul presented on “Dr. James Still: His Childhood in the Pine Barrens”; “Early Botanists in the Pine Barrens”; “Charcoal Culture”; and “The Dance Craze in the Pine Barrens.”

A Taste of Pine Wine, video recording of lecture. Videographer and editor, Michael Zubrzycki, Class of '14.
<https://youtu.be/7wjiiYmoXe4>

➤ On February 12, 2015, beginning at 6:30 p.m., filmmaker and videographer David Scott Kessler presented his cinematic collaboration: *The Pine Barrens*, an original film, accompanied by a live performance by The Ruins of Friendship Orchestra. Shorts from this same film play on an endless loop in the exhibition gallery. The film not only explores the science and history of the Pines, but creates a moving portrait of this unique place through multiple perspectives, both real and imagined. A large audience attended this showing.

➤ On March 26, 2015, Pine Barrens devotees received a special treat when SJCHC and the Noyes Museum presented an hour with historian and botanist Ted Gordon and archaeologist Budd Wilson.



LURE OF THE PINES, Ted Gordon and Budd Wilson. The two met at Rutgers Camden while students. Photograph by Mark Demitroff

The evening started at 5:00 p.m. with a second formal opening of the exhibition, taking advantage of the publicity garnered at the *Lines on the Pines* event held on March 8, 2015.

Ted and Budd began at 6:30 p.m. and during the ensuing hour, the two men regaled the crowd with stories concerning their intense interest in the Pines. They answered such questions as “What is the enduring attraction?” “What is the lure of the Pines?” and other queries submitted in advance by the audience. The hour provided for these two men to present passed much too quickly for the 120 people in attendance.

The Lure of the Pines, video recording of lecture. Videographer and editor, Michael Zubrzycki, Class of '14.
<http://youtu.be/6iYhr2A02Wg>

➤ The Ong’s Hat Band held a Pine Barrens Jamboree at the Noyes Museum on April 16, 2015, playing several genres of music and delighting the crowd that had assembled to hear them, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tom Stackhouse and the band picked away at a number of “Down Jersey” favorites, original compositions, and some Blue Grass tunes.

The Noyes Museum of Art

Pine Barrens Jamboree



Thursday, April 16, 5:30 - 7:30pm
 Join us for a lively evening at the museum with “down home” South Jersey-style music by Ong's Hat Band accompanied by light refreshments in the local tradition
 Regular Admission
 All Ages



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NOYES MUSEUM OF ART
STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

733 Lily Lake Rd.
Oceanville (Galloway), NJ 08231
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➤ Russell Juelg and friends brought a program of Pine Barrens storytelling and music to the Noyes Museum on May 2, 2015. Russell sang his own composition about the famed Jersey Devil, while acoustic guitarist Tom McKee played and sang a poignant original song about Emilio Carranza, Mexico's Lone Eagle, who crashed his plane in 1928 during a storm near Tabernacle, Burlington County. A large audience gathered between 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. to hear these stories set to song.

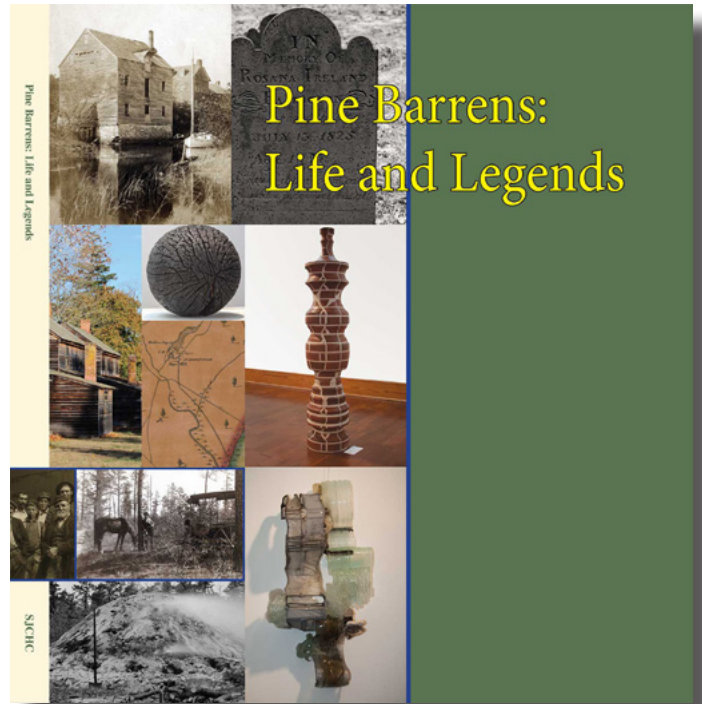


FOLK LORE AND FOLK MUSIC. Tom McKee on guitar, Scott Breeman on bass, and Russell Juelg on banjo

Folklore and Folk Music of the Pines, video recording of lecture. Videographer and editor, Michael Zubrzycki, Class of '14.

<http://youtu.be/vV3ntQkprmc>

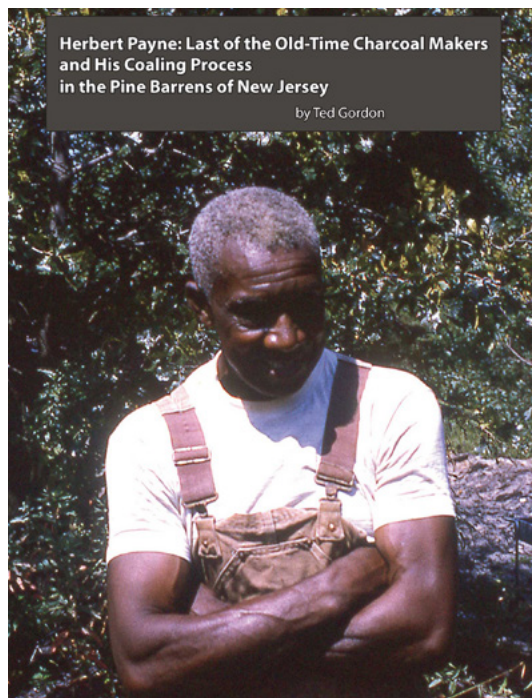
➤ Port Republic crafter and Stockton alumna Niki Giberson, of Swan Bay Folk Art Center, concluded events associated with the exhibition by presenting *Pine Barrens Crafts: Wool Spinning and Felting* on June 20, 2015. A hands-on experience for young and old alike, those in attendance had the opportunity to experience heritage crafting. Niki harvests the wool she uses from the sheep she raises on her farm. She washes and cards it preparatory to use. The wool is then sculpted by needle and felting into a variety of art pieces.



To create a lasting record of the exhibition and provide a contribution to the growing collection of cultural literature on the Pine Barrens, Tom and Paul collaborated to produce a 108-page, full-color, soft-bound catalog. The catalog contains not only all of the historical and art elements found in the gallery, but many more images and additional information germane to the Pine Barrens and the exhibition, but that did not fit into the final gallery design.

The Center also published a smaller pamphlet that reproduces an 1845 newspaper article on the Pine Barrens dance craze as a gratis souvenir for those visiting the exhibition.

Although not a direct outgrowth from the exhibition, the Center produced an additional publication in March 2015: a reprint of Ted Gordon's monograph entitled, *Herbert Payne: Last of the Old-Time Charcoal Makers and His Coaling Process in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey*. Ted originally prepared this text in 1980 for inclusion in the 1982 publication, *History, Culture, and Archeology of the Pine Barrens: Essays from the Third Pine Barrens Conference*, an event held at Stockton State College on March 31, 1980. The Center's publication of this work coincided nicely with the ongoing exhibition at the Noyes Museum.



PUBLICITY

“Pine Barrens: Life and Legends’ Exhibit Opens at the Noyes Museum.” *The SandPaper*. February 12, 2015.

<http://thesandpaper.villagesoup.com/p/pine-barrens-life-and-legends-exhibit-opens-at-the-noyes-museum/1302534>

“The Exhibition Opening.” A brief video shot and edited by Eric Anglero, AMST Class of ’15.

https://youtu.be/qd3eJ_DJIDQ

Walking the Keith Line

During October 2014, SJCHC sponsored Bill Bolger’s trek following the first half of the Keith Line, the original provincial boundary between East and West Jersey. A National Park Service professional and Mount Holly resident, Bolger undertook the walk to celebrate New Jersey’s 350th anniversary.

The SJCHC blog detailed Bill’s progress as he made his way through New Jersey, walking as close to the line as feasible. Bill began his trek near the location of the marker that once stood on Long Beach Island from where Keith projected his line and began his survey. Over the course of 18 days, Bill covered 110 miles, including the crossing of Barnegat Bay by boat, before he suspended his walk at Three Bridges, Hunterdon

County, located northeast of Flemington. His walk took him through the coastal zone; the Eastern Plains, where the Pigmy Pines grow; and on through the Pines until he reached the Inner Coastal Plain and began ascending the Piedmont region of New Jersey.



Bill Bolger walking the line

His overnight arrangements included bivouacking in a tent; a stay at Suningive Cottage at Whitesbog Village, the home of Blueberry researcher Elizabeth White; a motel; and several private homes. When Bill resumes the walk this autumn, SJCHC will be there to chronicle its completion to the Delaware Water Gap.



A Keith line marker

PUBLICITY

“150-mile hike follows Colonial-era line dividing East and West Jersey.” *The Hunterdon County Democrat*. October 13, 2014.

http://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/index.ssf/2014/10/150-mile_hike_follows_colonial.html

Lines on the Pines

SJCHC continues its partnership with Linda and Jim Stanton and their *Lines on the Pines* events (10th year for the main *Lines* event; 4th year for the kids' event – both are part of *It's a Sign of the Pines*TM, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of the State of New Jersey).

Stockton's school of Arts and Humanities has been a sponsor of *Lines* since 2012; and for the past two years

Lines on the Pines for Kids has been held at Stockton's Kramer Hall.

Throughout the year, the directors remained in close contact with the Stantons, as Linda has served as valuable member of the SJCHC advisory board since its inception. In April and May, 2015, Tom Kinsella advised on the relocation of the main *Lines* event for 2016, with the final candidates being the Renault Winery and Stockton's campus center. With Tom's guidance, the Stantons have selected Renault, factoring in its historical venue and the aptness of supporting local business.

On March 8, 2015, SJCHC was assisted at *Lines* by American Studies Masters students Eddie Horan '15, Ashley Vaccaro '16, Eric Anglero '15, Stephanie Allen '15, and Tricia Frechette, LITT '14, pictured below. Each served as an able representative of Stockton University and SJCHC. Couldn't have done it without them.



Lines is a day-long event where authors, artists, crafts-people and members of the local community come together to share and celebrate the Pine Barrens. A highlight of this year's event was the premier of the Jarvis Video Production movie in celebration of 10 years of *Lines on the Pines*.



Linda Stanton

PUBLICITY

“Free festival coming to Hammonton Pine Barrens.” *Cherry Hill Courier Post*. February 16, 2015.

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/story/news/local/south-jersey/2015/02/16/free-festival-coming-hammonton-pine-barrens/23524503/>

“Artists’ event will celebrate their love for the Pine-lands.” *Philly.com*. February 18, 2015

http://articles.philly.com/2015-02-18/news/59236781_1_pines-1-1-million-acre-national-reserve-mullica-river

“10th Anniversary of Lines on the Pines.” *The Sand-Paper*. February 19, 2015.

<http://thesandpaper.villagesoup.com/p/10th-anniversary-of-lines-on-the-pines/1305401>

STUDENT OUTREACH

SJCHC made several efforts to reach out to students during the school year, encouraging them to meet with either of the directors and to join us in our various projects studying South Jersey. Tom spoke with students about the Center at both LITT and AMST Meet-and-Greet events. He spoke with HIST students in their capstone seminars and with Honor Students, explaining the goals of the Center and extending an invitation to interested students.

In September, 2014 *The ARGO* published an in-depth Q&A with Tom about the purpose and goals of the Center.



There was discussion of students forming an on-campus club in support of SJCHC efforts. Such a group, supported by student activity funds, would be able to sponsor events of particular interest to students. This did not occur, but if student interest remains strong, we plan to pursue the idea further next academic year.

“South Jersey Surrounds Us.” Mark Allan Donaldson. *The ARGO* 84.4 (September 29, 2014).

<http://stocktonargo.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Argo-9.29.14web.pdf>

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS/INDEPENDENT STUDIES



🔗 **South Jersey Documentaries.** During fall 2014 and spring 2015, Communications major Tim Chivalette and Economics major Ian Angotti teamed up with SJCHC to complete several short documentaries on South Jersey notables, including interviews with Don Guardian, Mayor of Atlantic City; members of the Ong's Hat Band; Gary Giberson, Mayor of Port Republic, and Niki Giberson, his wife and Stockton alumna, a well-known craftswoman; and Budd Wilson, the legendary local archaeologist.



Budd Wilson interviewed by Ian Angotti, Tim Chivalette directing and filming

Tim and Ian envisioned a series of South Jersey-related documentaries, collected in hour-long segments of an ongoing series entitled *Needle Point with Ian Angotti*. Their first two documentaries, made on their own time and not for credit, were supported by stipends from SJCHC. Having both won Distinguished Student Fellowships during spring 2015, they completed two additional segments and shot additional footage, to be used in later projects



Budd Wilson examining a hollow catalpa tree at Martha Furnace

PUBLICITY

“Timothy Chivalette, Ian Angotti Produce Film Series to Showcase South Jersey.” *Distinctive Stockton Students*. March 24, 2014.

<https://blogs.stockton.edu/stocktondistinctive/2015/03/24/timothy-chivalette-ian-angotti-produce-film-series-to-showcase-south-jersey/#more-1000>

Needle Point with Ian Angotti.

<https://youtu.be/tEu4zPe8fb0>

🔗 **Digitizing Local Communities.** SJCHC has taken a leading role in the Stockton R&PD grant *Partnering to Preserve the Past: A Collaboration between Stockton and The Hammonton Sesquicentennial Committee*. Directors Kinsella and Schopp attended bi-weekly meetings at Kramer Hall, and assisted Stephanie Allen and Eric Anglero, two AMST interns, along with the staff of Kramer Hall throughout spring 2015.

Undertaken as part of the preparations for Hammonton's Sesquicentennial in 2016, the tangible outgrowth of this grant is the *Hammonton History Project*, an online repository of hundreds of historical images showcasing varied aspects of the Hammonton's rich heritage. When the official site is up and running in fall 2015, images will be available through a web interface served by the Bjork Library's visual database, ContentDM.



The final internship meeting for Eric Anglero and Stephanie Allen; with Eileen Conran-Folks

COMM intern Nick Zebrowski has joined the project for the summer of 2015; in fall 2015 he will be succeeded by AMST intern Ashley Vaccaro. Eileen Conran-Folks has been a driving force behind this project, and we thank her for the opportunity to team up with her and with students who are deeply interested in preserving our past. The project also leans heavily on the expertise and support of the Richard E. Bjork Library, especially Joseph Toth, director, and members of the digitizing team, to whom we give our thanks.

➤ **More Digitizing.** Buzby's General Store, in Chatsworth, NJ, has been called "The Capital of the Pines." Without question, beginning in the 1890s, it has served as the long-time center of Chatsworth and remains well-known throughout the Pines. In 2012, R. Marilyn Schmidt, the current owner, donated The Buzby's General Store Collection to the Bjork Library Special Collections. The collection chronicles the store's cultural evolution from its purchase by Willis Jefferson Buzby in the 1890s to its most recent renovations in 1998 by Schmidt. In an era before shopping malls, supermarkets, and the internet, Buzby's General Store served a dual-role: fulfilling its community's shopping as well as social needs.



Buzby's General Store, Chatsworth, NJ

During spring 2015, students Ashley Vaccaro and Kaitlyn Warwick teamed up, at the suggestion and under the guidance of Tom Kinsella, to assist in digitizing the Buzby collection. Ms. Vaccaro, AMST '16, served as SJCHC graduate assistant during the term, and the bulk of her duties included planning and then implementing the digitizing. She was joined by Kaitlyn Warwick, who completed her portion of the project while an intern at Special Collections; Ms. Warwick will be attending Rutgers in fall 2015 pursuing a Masters in Library Science. While Tom served as project coordinator, the important supervision was contributed by Stephanie Sussmeier and Eric Jeitner of the library.



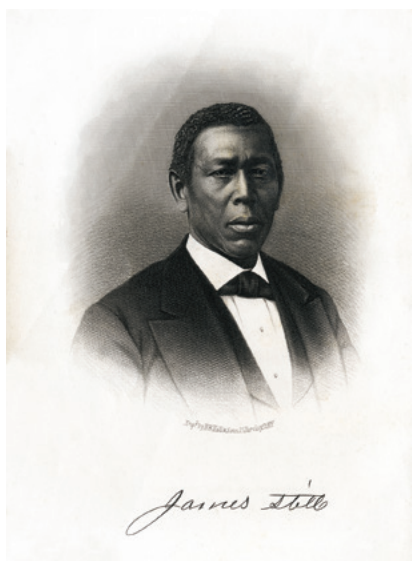
Tom Kinsella and Kaitlyn Warwick at Buzby's.
Photo by Ashley Vaccaro

🔑 **Publication and Republication.** During spring 2015, Bill Albertson, AMST '15, served as a SJCHC graduate assistant and spent the semester helping to edit and set in type a manuscript (c. 1876) by Charles K. Landis, founder of Vineland. In a joint publishing venture, SJCHC and the Vineland Historical & Antiquarian Society will publish Landis's previously unknown sci-fi thriller, *A Trip to Mars*.



The rejected first cover of the about-to-be published *A Trip to Mars*, expected out July, 2015

During spring 2015, Heather Ganiel, LITT '15, prepared, edited, and set in type the forthcoming SJCHC republication of James Still's autobiography as part of an independent study. Heather did an excellent job and the text, with a foreword by Paul W. Schopp, is expected to be published by the end of summer 2015.



James Still, frontispiece from the autobiographical volume, *Early Recollections and Life of Dr. James Still*, published in 1877

Student Coursework associated with SJCHC

Spring 2014

LITT 4610-002 Literature Senior Seminar, *Writing South Jersey*. Twenty LITT seniors wrote, edited and published two issues of the SJCHC newsletter *Sandy Shorts*, curated a well-received exhibition in the Bjork Library, and completed basic planning and research for the Noyes exhibition, *PINE BARRENS: LIFE AND LEGENDS*.

Sandy Shorts 3.1. Spring 2014.

<https://blogs.stockton.edu/sjchc/files/2014/04/Sandy-Shorts3.1.pdf>

Sandy Shorts 3.2. Early Summer 2014.

<https://blogs.stockton.edu/sjchc/files/2014/05/Sandy-Shorts3.2.pdf>

Library Exhibition. *Come See for Yourself: Special Selections from Special Collections*. April – July 2014.

<https://blogs.stockton.edu/specialexhibitions/>

Fall 2014

AMST 5800-003 (3 credit) "Wine in the Pines."

AMST 5800-004 (3 credit) "South Jersey Novels."

Spring 2015

AMST 5800-001 (3 credit) "Bootlegger: Life & Times."

AMST 5910-001 (6 credit) Internship: "Hammon-ton History."

AMST 5910-002 (6 credit) Internship: "Hammon-ton Digitizing Project."

LITT 4800-001 (4 credit) "Nucky & AC Machine."

LITT 4800-002 (4 credit) Editing: *Early Recollections and Life of Dr. James Still*.

LITT 4900-001 (4 credit) Bjork Library Internship.

Summer 2015

AMST 5910-001 (6 credit) Internship: Whitesbog.

AMST 5800-401 (3 credit) Internship: Editing South Jersey.

LITT 4900-001 (1 credit) Internship: Rancocas Nature Center Intern.

THE DAVID C. MUNN COLLECTION, BJORK LIBRARY, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Dave Munn, who died on April 12, 2014, was a well-respected librarian, local historian, book collector, and the first-named member to the SJCHC advisory board. A close friend to the current directors, without his guidance and support, it is unlikely that the Center would stand today as strongly as it does.

Not long after Dave's funeral, by arrangement with the Munn family, the archivist of Special Collections, David Pinto, and Tom Kinsella packed up Dave's book collection, which he had donated to the University, and transported it to Special Collections. They were assisted in the packing by Paul W. Schopp and members of the Munn family. The collection, 10,000 items strong, has become the charge of the Special Collections staff and other librarians within the Bjork Library.



David C. Munn, long-time librarian and historian of South Jersey



The Munn Collection, more than 10,000 items concerned mainly with South Jersey, arrives in Special Collections, c. May, 2014

SJCHC gives grateful thanks to Louise Tillstrom and David Pinto of Special Collections, along with Joseph Toth, Bill Bearden, and the library catalogers, for ably processing this valuable, but time-consuming gift.



Louise Tillstrom. Without her good work the Munn Collection would still be in boxes

Close cooperation with the Bjork library is imperative for the success of SJCHC efforts. We have worked well together during 2014-2015 and look forward to even more fruitful collaborations in the immediate future.

GOING FORWARD

SJCHC has a busy summer planned for 2015 and is already in the middle of the projects listed below.

➤ **SUPPLEMENTING THE ADVISORY BOARD.** With the death of Dave Munn and the move of Paul W. Schopp from board member to associate director, only two original board members remain, Mark Demitroff and Linda Stanton. Both have been unfailingly helpful throughout the year. In our July 2015 board meeting, SJCHC will discuss inviting additional members to the board, the first of whom has recently come on board, Eileen Conran-Folks of Kramer Hall.

➤ **CHARLES “BUDD” WILSON DOCUMENTARY.** Students Tim Chivalette and Ian Angotti have shot three separate interviews with Budd Wilson, a well-known archaeologist: at his home, at Batsto Village and at Martha Furnace. This summer, SJCHC intends to begin editing a documentary of Budd’s work with student help. The finished product will be shown at Batsto Village, Kramer Hall, and other venues.

➤ **DIGITIZING HISTORIC INTERVIEWS.** The Woodland Township Historical Society, in Chatsworth, has invited SJCHC to digitize several hours of VHS interviews with Chatsworth notables first recorded in the early 1980s. The digitized versions will be made public via the web. We will move forward on this project over the summer.

➤ **FIRST WORLD WAR AND ITS EFFECT ON SOUTH JERSEY.** SJCHC, working with student interns, and in association with Armed Forces Heritage Museum, headquartered at the McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Joint Base, will begin production of a film documenting how World War I affected the physical and cultural landscape of South Jersey. The region hosted several large newly constructed facilities, including Camp Dix in Burlington County; the Amatol and Belcoville shell-loading plants in Atlantic County; the Woodbury bag-loading munitions plant in Gloucester County; the shipyards along the Delaware River and Bay; Camp Pedrick in Salem County; Camp Kendrick in Ocean County; Camp Wissahickon in Cape May County; and the ordnance proving grounds in various sections of the Pines and along the coast and bayshore.



Camp Dix under construction, 1917

➤ **FOLKLORE CONFERENCE.** The SJCHC is planning to hold a Folklore conference during spring 2016. Sessions will range from the retelling of stories related to South Jersey to the technical aspects of storytelling and the methodologies for collecting folktales.

➤ **PUBLISHING LOCAL HISTORY.** Pending award of a New Jersey Historical Commission mini-grant, SJCHC will spend July and August, 2015 completing the layout of its first occasional local history, Robert Thompson’s *Burlington Biographies*, a history of the City of Burlington from its and West New Jersey’s founding in 1677 to the mid-twentieth century.

➤ **CO-PUBLISHING EXHIBITION CATALOG.** Also depending upon successful award of a second NJHC grant, which the Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society submitted, SJCHC has agreed to co-publish an exhibition catalogue on the society’s upcoming exhibition, “Forbidden Artifacts.” Work on this project will commence this summer if the mini-grant is awarded on July 1, 2015.

➤ **MORE PUBLISHING.** SJCHC is currently wrapping up work on the co-published Charles K. Landis science-fiction work, *A Trip to Mars*, in collaboration with the Vineland Historical & Antiquarian Society. VHAS has inquired about our interest in co-publishing a second work of historical photographs from their holdings. Work on that project is slated to begin in late summer 2015.

➤ **OUTREACH TO HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.** Currently SJCHC has affiliation agreements with Batsto Village, Whitesbog Village, Rancocas Nature Center, and the Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society. Interns

have been placed at the three last-named organizations. This summer SJCHC will be completing affiliation agreements with several other local historical societies and museums including the Atlantic County Historical Society; the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey; the Hammonton Historical Society, the Ocean County Historical Society, the Bridgeton Library and Tuckerton Seaport. During the ensuing year, the SJCHC will be seeking opportunities to expand its internship program to other organizations in South Jersey.

➤ **NEH GRANT PROPOSAL.** Once again teaming up with the able staff at Kramer Hall, SJCHC will be submitting a grant proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities in late June, 2015 entitled “Common Heritage,” sponsored by the Division of Preservation and Access and Division of Public Programs.



Pennsylvania Railroad Station, Hammonton, NJ

If the grant is awarded, Tom Kinsella will serve as Project Director and will coordinate the digitizing processes associated with two day-long community events. These events will give members of the public the opportunity to have items from their personal collections, specifically images and artifacts relevant to the history of the Town of Hammonton, digitized and made available on the *Hammonton History* website. Eileen Conran-Folks, Director for the Hammonton and Manahawkin Instructional Sites, will provide the administrative, marketing, and logistical support necessary to coordinate the events associated with this grant proposal.

➤ **BUILDING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.** SJCHC continues to work closely with members of the Bjork Library to build Stockton’s South Jersey collections, especially Joseph Toth, Bill Bearden, David Pinto, and Louise Tillstrom. Interest in donating to Special Collections is strong, but the Library’s ability to store, preserve, catalogue, and make accessible new acquisitions is limited by significant budget constraints. The Collections Development policy for Special Collections was reviewed during this past year, but at this time we are advised that financial constraints preclude even modest collecting. The aim of SJCHC is to help the Library secure necessary funding to judiciously, but actively build its South Jersey collections in order to further the study and preservation of our area.

➤ **DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS READING ROOM.** At the end of spring 2014, a generous portion of the SJCHC 2020 grant (2013-2015) was repurposed to facilitate the redesign of the Reading Room within Special Collections. The current space is accessed by walking through the work room and frankly is of poor quality, being cold in the winter and overly warm in the summer. Planning would repurpose the current space across from Mark Jackson’s office into a more visible, and more professional space for patrons to access materials from Special Collections. At the time of publication of this report, funds were in place to retrofit compact shelving in order to make it lockable and thus adequate storage for Special Collections materials. The work is to be completed by June 30, 2015. Repurposing shelving in this way will allow the future reading room to be more fully utilized as a reading and seminar space instead of doubling as a storage area.

➤ **MATERIAL CULTURE SERIES.** SJCHC is planning a series of lectures by local scholars who will make use of the South Jersey materials held by Special Collections. This hands-on approach to discussing material culture is aimed at Stockton undergraduates and grad students, staff and faculty, and interested members of the local community.

➤ **PARTNERING WITH THE NOYES MUSEUM.** Although the final disposition of the partnership between Stockton University and the Noyes Museum in Oceanville, NJ is not yet clear, SJCHC and Noyes Director Michael Cagno have held conversations about possible col-

laborative efforts, beyond the current *Pine Barrens* exhibition. We have discussed the possibility of modifying the lower gallery into an experimental learning space. Student interns, or students within dedicated courses, would develop and curate historical/cultural exhibitions. The space would become a classroom not simply for exhibition preparation but also for the development of cultural programming aimed at the Stockton and local communities. The space might also serve as the staging ground for joint programming with other cultural institutions and historical societies: Whitesbog, Tuckerton Seaport, Bayshore, etc.

➤ **SOUTH JERSEY JOURNAL.** SJCHC has begun making preparations for a magazine dedicated to the publication of South Jersey-centered essays written by local historians, community members, Stockton faculty, staff, alumni, and current students.

There is precedent, and we believe demand, for such a publication. The now defunct *South Jersey Magazine* of local history had a memorable and important run from 1972 - 2003. We plan to update publication delivery, in both traditional and digital formats, to encourage long-form essays, and therefore to further disseminate information of interest and significance about South Jersey. A tentative first date of publication is late spring 2016.

FRIENDS OF SJCHC

➤ **TED GORDON.** It has been the pleasure of SJCHC to work with noted Pine Barrens botanist, photographer and historian Ted Gordon to republish his monograph, *Herbert Payne: Last of the Old-Time Charcoal Makers and His Coaling Process* (March 8, 2015). We have also been fortunate to begin helping Ted digitize his important collection of slides of the Pine Barrens, a more than 50-year record of this ecologically and culturally sensitive area. The digitization is ongoing. So too is a project to complete an additional monograph describing the Atsion Ironworks in Burlington County.

➤ **CHARLES “BUDD” WILSON.** As noted previously in this report, SJCHC engaged student film makers Tim Chivalette and Ian Angotti to film Budd on three separate occasions. The resulting documentary, now in the

editing stages, will showcase Budd’s knowledge of the archaeology and history of Batsto Village and Martha Furnace, two important colonial and nineteenth century industrial centers within the Pines. Grateful thanks are given to Professor Christine Farina; without her assistance none of the SJCHC documentary work would have been completed. She has largely directed and supervised the filming and editing processes.

➤ **MARK DEMITROFF.** Mark is an inaugural member of the SJCHC advisory board, and Pinelands authority. He has been an unfailing inspiration and vibrant supporter of South Jersey appreciation. In Spring 2015 he teamed up with Professor Mike Hozik to teach GIS 4672, *Physical & Cultural Geography of the Pinelands* at Kramer Hall in Hammonton. Fourteen students took part in an overview of the environmental and human landscapes of the NJ Pinelands through lectures, guest speakers, and field trips. They studied the geological, cultural, and ecological development of the Pinelands, learning how cultural development had to adapt in order to take advantage of unique sugar sand opportunities. The class was an opportunity to discover and research a wide range of lesser-known elements that make up this UNESCO-designated International Biosphere Reserve.



Members of GIS 4672 on a field trip in the Pine Barrens. To the left is guest lecturer Dr. Walter Bien, Director of Drexel’s Laboratory of Pinelands Research. Students are soil sampling at the pygmy pines, the Warren Grove Gunnery Range, along side Watering Place Pond – learning about rare plants, geology, and extreme fire ecosystems. SJCHC heartily encourages this sort of course. Great work.

PRESSING NEEDS

The South Jersey Culture & History Center has had a good year. Support provided by the Stockton University administration at all levels has been gratifying and has allowed the Center to expand its reach to both the Stockton community (students, faculty, and staff) and to members of the local community. Below are items that the directors deem necessary for the continued development and success of the Center.

➤ Funding at the level of its 2014-15 operating budget and for support to convert the Associate Director position from a 20-hour per week TES position to a ¾-time employee. We cannot stress enough the need for this funding. We look forward to a time in the near future when the Associate Director becomes a full-time staff position. Such support would be put to excellent use.

➤ Additional support for Special Collections, including the dedication of additional space, hiring of a full-time curator, additional cataloging support, and dedication of collection funds to acquire unique and important items of South Jerseyana are all crucial.



Tom Kinsella and Paul W. Schopp made a good team throughout 2014 - 2015. They look forward to an increasingly productive year in 2015 - 2016

LOOKING INTO STOCKTON'S PAST (IN THE FUTURE)

In August 2014, the Center's associate director, Paul Schopp, began assisting Dr. Jack Connor, professor of writing at Stockton University, with historical research on Lake Fred. Dr. Connor has written extensively about the natural environment in and around Stockton's Galloway campus and had turned his attention to Lake Fred and pondered about its history. Paul submitted a detail from an 1828 map to Jack that revealed the water body once powered a mill of some type. With that information in hand, Paul began conducting research on land titles in the area of Lake Fred. By the end of September 2014, SJCHC director, Tom Kinsella, assembled an informal committee comprising himself, Gabe Coia, Jack Connor, William Hamilton, James Pullaro, Paul Schopp, Ken Tompkins, and Budd Wilson.



Paul and others have conducted research at a number of repositories, including the New Jersey State Archives, the Atlantic County Historical Society, the Atlantic County Clerk's Office, and the Gloucester County Historical Society. The project will result in a documentary report which should be completed in fall 2015.



PUBLISHING SOUTH JERSEY

In 2013, SJCHC republished *Atlantic City: Its Early & Modern History* by Alexander Barrington Irvine. Originally published in 1868, the title is the first in-depth history of Atlantic City. Stockton undergraduates edited the text and wrote a new foreword and afterword. It inaugurated our ongoing series of inexpensive republications. In 2014 we republished a selection of nature essays by early twentieth-century Cumberland County native Dallas Lore Sharp; we also published our first original study, a bibliography of South Jersey poetry, compiled and introduced by Stockton student Stephanie Allen.

Republishing is one of the ways that SJCHC seeks to engage the local community. At the same time the Center is committed to introducing Stockton students to the rigors and joys of editing and electronic typesetting using InDesign. The finished texts, vetted by the directors, are given ISBN numbers and entered into the Bowker ISBN system. Most are printed us-

ing Lightning Source, an on-line subsidiary of Ingram Publishing. With cover art produced by Stockton Graphics, the set up costs entailed are minimal. The quality of the finished texts, printed in any quantity, is excellent. These handsome and well made paperbacks cost around \$2.50 per unit and allow us to set our retail prices quite low, as the ultimate goal of SJCHC publishing is educational, not pecuniary.

Our Lightning Source titles are available through Amazon. The Center has also sold copies at Lines on the Pines. Our most recent publications, *Pine Barrens: Life and Legends* and Ted Gordon's *Last of the Old-Time Charcoal Makers*, are being sold at the Noyes Museum, the Ocean County Historical Society, and Second Time Books in Mount Laurel, NJ. To date in 2015 we have sold 129 books and have placed the proceeds, \$884.60, in the SJCHC Foundation account. In the future we hope to make sales available at a variety of locations including the Stockton Book Store and the Batsto Village book store.



THE HAMMONTON SHOE COMPANY, aka Kramer Hall, well before its renovation by Stockton University



FOLKLORE OF SOUTH JERSEY

South Jersey, with its historically diverse ethnic background, provides rich ground for storytelling. SJCHC is planning a spring 2016 folklore conference to highlight this cultural wealth. The folklore of South Jersey was most famously popularized by Henry Charlton Beck in his series of essays and books about New Jersey. *Forgotten Towns of Southern New Jersey* and *Jersey Genesis* are two that introduce the forgotten history and tales of South Jersey.

This year's Noyes exhibition has introduced many to the folklore of the Pines, in particular the stories recorded by Herbert Halpert (above left taking down an informant's story), a contemporary of Beck who approached New Jersey folklore from an anthropologist's perspective. From the late 1930s through the early 1950s, Halpert collected stories of the Pines from older residents. These stories, preserved in his transcriptions and recordings, remain one of the great treasures of the Pines. His magnum opus, published posthumously, is *Folk Tales, Tall Tales, Trickster Tales and Legends of the Supernatural from*

the Pinelands of New Jersey (2010). It is an outstanding collection that contains numerous story cycles, tall tales and anecdotes, focused generally on the Pines.

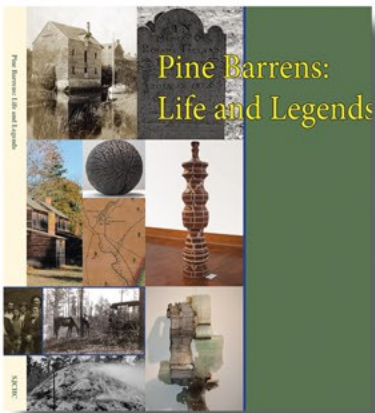
Our conference will focus on *all* of South Jersey, not simply the Pines. We are interested in stories associated with coastal sea towns such as Tuckerton, Brigantine, Atlantic City, and Cape May; towns in the interior such as Egg Harbor City, Hammonton, and Vineland; yarns associated with the Delaware Baymen and the Delaware River Towns, and more.



WITCH AS MAP COMPASS. Clever north arrow from a map of wood lots near Batsto.

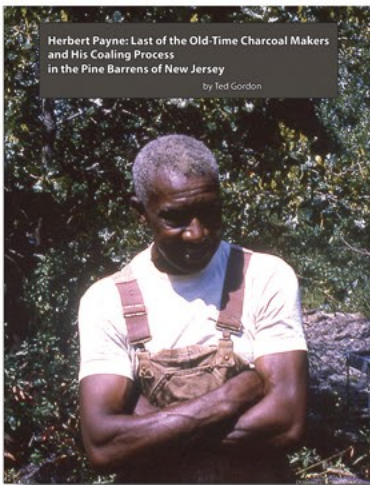


South Jersey Culture & History Center

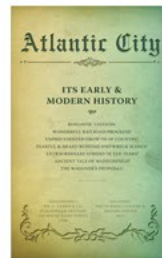


SJCHC Publications

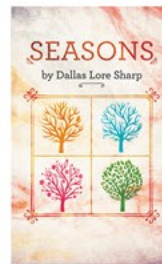
The exhibition **Pine Barrens: Life and Legends**, held at the Noyes Museum January 30 - September 13, 2015, encouraged visitors to view New Jersey Pines-inspired art within the context of life in the historic Pine Barrens. This catalogue includes the full text of the exhibition, historic images illustrating life in the Pines, the artwork, plus additional historical commentary and a sampling of the Pine Barrens lore collected by anthropologist Herbert Halpert in the 1930s-40s: tales of Sammy Buck Giberson, the Pine Barrens musician who met (and beat) the devil in a fiddle contest; Peggy Clevenger, the Witch of the Pines; and Jerry Munyhun, the Wizard of the Pines. 108 pages, paperback, \$15.95. Available through Amazon.



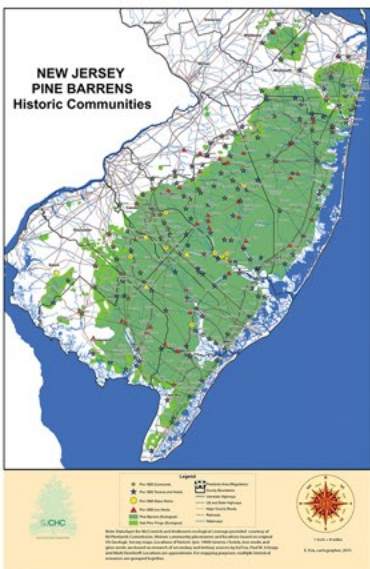
Herbert Payne: Last of the Old-Time Charcoal Makers, by Ted Gordon, 2015. Originally published in 1982, this essay describes the innovative charcoal making process of Herbert Payne. "With his death the tradition of coaling that had stretched back to the earliest industrialization of the Pines also died." Newly edited and illustrated with color photographs. 12 pages, pamphlet, \$4.00.



Atlantic City: Its Early & Modern History, by Alexander Barrington Irvine (Carnesworthe). Originally published in 1868, repub. in 2013, this lively history serves as an introduction to the early marketing of Atlantic City. 95 pages, paperback, \$6.95. Amazon.



Seasons, by Dallas Lore Sharp, 2014. A Cumberland County native, Sharp was among the most popular nature writers in the first quarter of the 20th century. The present volume is a selection of his delightful essays. 158 pages, paperback, \$5.95. Amazon.



New Jersey Pine Barrens: Historic Communities. Map of Pine Barrens historic communities, showing pre-1900 communities, taverns, hotels, glass works, and iron works. Prepared by Ed Fox, 2015. 12 x 18 inch color map.



Collecting South Jersey: a Local Bibliography, by Stephanie Allen, 2014. A bibliography of South Jersey poetry with 378 entries. 56 pages.

COMING SOON! *A Trip to Mars*, by Charles K. Landis, with an introduction by Patricia A. Martinelli. Between the time that Jules Verne launched his first rocket to the moon in 1865 and H. G. Wells sent the first men there in 1901, another visionary took his readers on *A Trip to Mars* – Charles K. Landis, the founder of Vineland.

ALSO COMING! A republication of James Still's autobiography: *Early Recollections and Life of Dr. James Still*. Born in 1812, Still spent his formative years in and around Indian Mills, Burlington County. He grew to be a well-known herbalist and doctor, becoming the wealthiest African American in New Jersey during his lifetime.

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