

The CHRONICLE

Volume 23 Issue 2

Spring 2019

Artist Constance de Bordenave Leads Impressive Spring Roster of Speakers Including a Special German Genealogy Seminar



Artist Constance de Bordenave in her studio, above; left "En Route to Italy," from her refugee collection.

On March 10, Thomas Balch Library will welcome painter Constance de Bordenave for a talk on her collection "Reaching for Hope and a Future." It's also a homecoming of sorts for the artist, who grew up next door to the library.

She began painting early, following in the footsteps of her father, Winslow Williams, and her grandmother, Pauline Winslow. After earning a degree in art history from Sweet Briar College, Constance began selling her watercolors.

"I spent 20 years making jewelry and silversmithing," she said. "More recently, for the past 10 years, I have been painting people—figures, portraits, and personal life scenes."

In her talk, she will describe her response to the ongoing refugee crisis through her art, including the series now on view at the library. The artist also will share information from her trip to Europe taken during the summer of 2018 to visit refugees and refugee agencies.

German Genealogy
Pre-register today for this special seminar at Thomas Balch Library on May 22, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m..For details and order form, see page 7.

Friends Elect New Board of Directors at Annual Meeting



Front row, left to right Mildred Anne Daye, Ron A. Rust, Judy Gerow, Back row, left to right: Dr. Donald G. Cooper, Lewis Leigh, Jr., Bruce Cleveland, W. Perry Epes, William C. Ray, Richard T. Gillespie, and James Lucier. Not present: Gail Adams, Donna Bohanon, Jeff Bolyard, Richard Routman, Suzi Worsham, and Kacey Young. Photograph by Sarah Huntington.

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LIBRARY, INC.**

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Leesburg, VA 20177
www.balchfriends.org

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11 Educators Receive Friends Awards

Each year Friends of Thomas Balch Library recognizes educators for promoting the study of Loudoun County's and Virginia's rich history housed in the library. The 2018 recipients' work:

Amy McLaughlin and Lauren Kalletta of Dominion Trail Elementary School had their 4th grade classes write their interpretations of Virginia history. Next, **Tracy Cody and Joshua Brown of Loudoun County High School's** senior class put the 4th graders' text and illustrations into book form. They also translated the text into a Spanish language edition.

Kandyce Blackstock of Stonebridge High School had her art class visit the library to view the books in the Charles A. Johnston Collection to learn about the history of book illustration and book construction.



Anthony Jay Dodson of Farmwell Station Middle School (above left with his students) is pictured unveiling the new roadside historic marker for the **Ashburn Colored School**. He had his students propose and research new Loudoun markers; teams then presented their recommendations to judges, including the library's staff, who also helped the students with further research. Library staff also reviewed the text of the final marker, which was installed in June 2017.

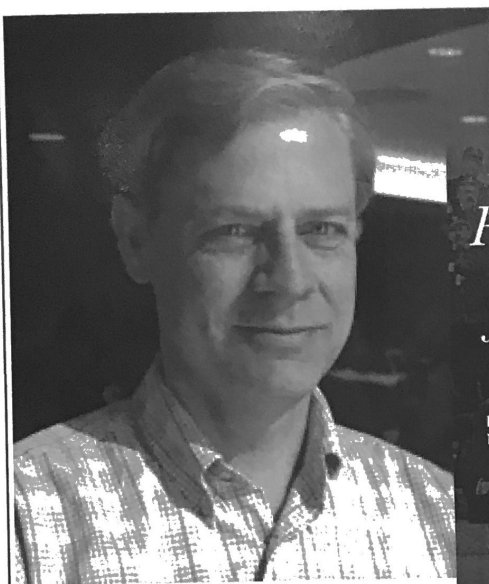
Dr. Jessica Legnini and Barbara Oliphant of Freedom High School brought 108 history students to the library to learn how to use the library's collections to research the South Riding property where their homes are located. Friends member Wynne Saffer assisted the students.

Butch Porter of InED's students took the Charles A. Johnston Walking Tour one week, and then, during the next week's class, they visited the Thomas Balch Library to see items from the Johnston collection.

Elizabeth Scheib of Trailside Middle School's students interacted with speakers from the Friends' Black History Committee; they completed an activity based on posters of figures in Loudoun's African American history.

Michael Skvarch of Loudoun Valley High School sponsored Zach Stevenson, a capstone student who served as a library intern. Zach worked on an inventory of local newspaper photograph collections.

Two Experts Examine the Navy's Transformation from 1873 – 1945



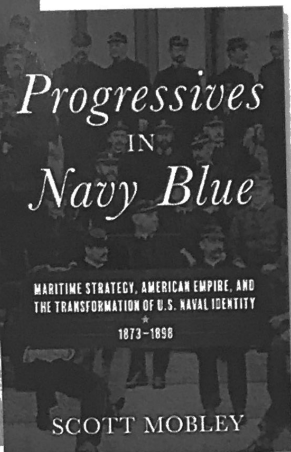
Author Scott Mobley, Ph.D

Progressives in Navy Blue, 1873-1898

On March 17, 2019, 2 – 4 p.m., Thomas Balch Library will welcome Scott Mobley, an expert in U.S. diplomatic and maritime history who will explore how intellectual and institutional developments transformed the U.S. Navy from 1873 to 1898. The period was a dynamic quarter-century in which Americans witnessed their navy evolve. Cultures of progress—clusters of ideas, beliefs, values, and practices pertaining to modern warfare and technology—guided the navy's transformation.

Within the navy's progressive movement, two new cultures—strategy and mechanism—influenced the course of transformation. While both cultures were progressive, each embodied a distinctive vision for the navy's future.

Mobley earned an M.A. and Ph.D in history at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He co-edits *Voices & Visions*, an online resource that illuminates the history of U.S. foreign relations with primary audio-visual sources (<http://vandvreader.org/>). A retired naval officer, Scott graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and holds an M.A. in national security affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School.

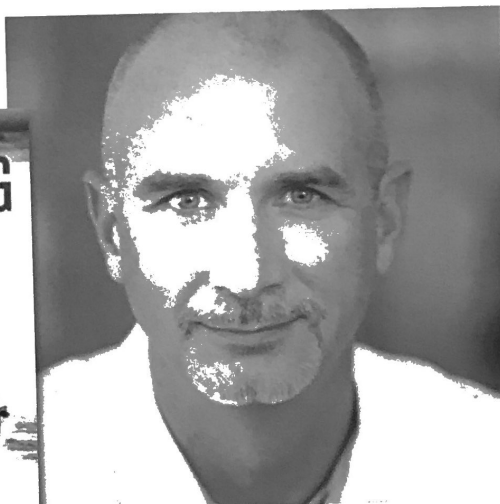
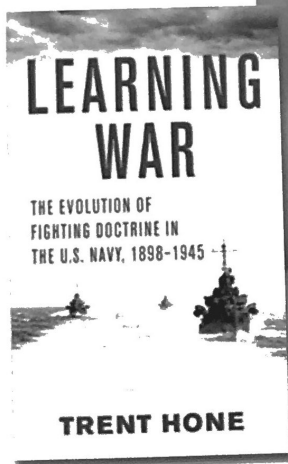


Learning War: The Evolution of Fighting Doctrine in the U.S. Navy, 1895 –1945 by Trent Hone

On April 7, 2019, 2 –4 p.m. at the library, Trent Hone will talk about his book *Learning War*, which examines the U.S. Navy's doctrinal development from 1898–1945 and explains why the navy in that era was successful as an organization at fostering innovation.

A revolutionary study of one of history's greatest success stories, this book draws conclusions that give new insight into how the navy succeeded in becoming the best naval force in the world and also how modern organizations can exploit today's rapid technological and social changes in pursuit of success. Hone argues that the navy created a sophisticated learning system in the early years of the 20th century that led to repeated innovations in the development of surface warfare tactics and doctrine.

Hone is an authority on the U.S. Navy of the early 20th century and a leader in the application of complexity science to organizational design. He studied religion and archaeology at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. Hone writes and speaks about tactical doctrine, organizational learning, and complexity.



Trent Hone

Friends Applaud New Oral History Series Video on James P. Lucier

Continuing its tradition of honoring a Loudoun County citizen who has made significant contributions to our knowledge of the county, Friends of Thomas Balch Library turned the spotlight on James P. Lucier in a new video oral history. A longtime resident of Loudoun, he has focused his research on history, genealogy, and architecture.

Premiered at the 24th annual meeting of the Friends on January 27, the video explores Lucier's research into the local Loudoun accomplishments of several distinguished Washington families, including the Eustises. It was William Corcoran Eustis and his wife, Edith Livingston Morton Eustis, who purchased Oatlands Plantation in 1903 and restored it to its pre-Civil War glory. Lucier also discussed the 1878 chapel at North King and Union streets in Leesburg. Built in the French Medieval style, the chapel owes its exquisite windows to Edith Eustis.

Now available for viewing at Thomas Balch Library, the film was created by videographer Sarah Huntington with contributions by Richard Gillespie and Peter Buck. Friends member Patty Rogers-Renner produced the video.



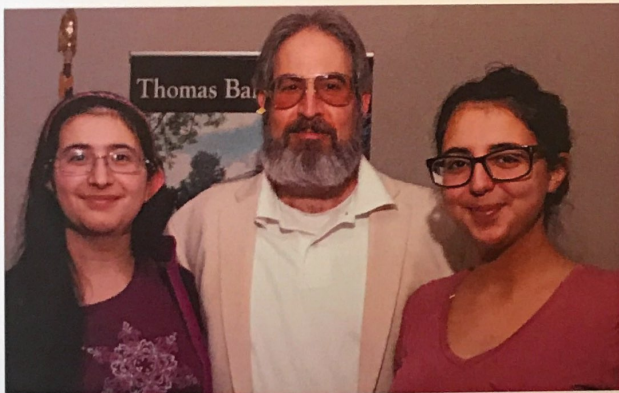
Joining James Lucier at the annual meeting were his wife, Mary Grace, and son, Jim.



Patty Rogers-Renner, above center, produced the Friends' new oral history video. Joining her at the premiere are, left Richard Calderon, former staff member of Loudoun County Planning Commission staff, and, right, his sister Maria Calderon, retired U. S. Foreign Service Officer. At right, historian and educator Richard T. Gillespie introduced the Lucier video. Annual meeting photographs by Sarah Huntington.



Front row, from left: Peggy Fera, Bruce Cleveland, Lewis Leigh, and Bill Ray. Below left, Phil Lo Presti with his daughters, Maria, on his left, and Angelina. Lower left: Jim Lucier, seated, Wynne Saffer, center, and James Hershman, right.

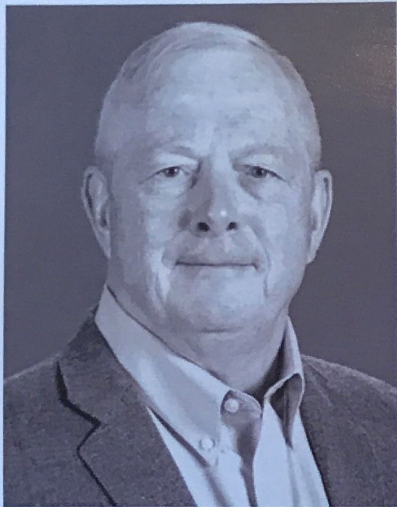


Eugene L. Meyer Introduced Friends to the Five African Americans Who Fought With John Brown at Harper's Ferry

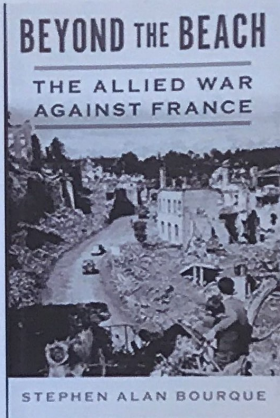


Alicia Cohen, Friends' Black History Committee member, welcome author Eugene Meyer at his February 24 lecture.

How the Allies Waged War Against France and Black Mail Against the Japanese



Beyond the Beach: The Allied War Against France by Stephen A. Bourque



On April 28, 2019, 2– 4 p.m., Stephen A. Bourque will join the Friends to discuss his new book on the Allied air war against France in 1944. During this period, Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower took control of all American, British, and Canadian air units and deployed them for tactical and operational purposes over France.

Using bombers as his long-range artillery, General Eisenhower directed destruction of bridges, rail centers, ports, military installations, and even French towns with the intent of preventing

German reinforcements from interfering with Operation Neptune, the Allied landings at Normandy.

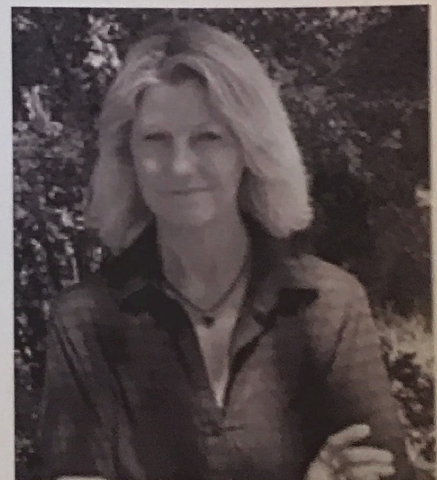
This air offensive, resulting in the death of over 60,000 French civilians and immense damage to towns, churches, buildings, and works of art, is rarely discussed as part of the D-Day landings. The book explores the short- and long-term effects of these operations and why this ignored narrative should be part of any history of the D-Day landings.

Stephen A. Bourque is Professor Emeritus of military history at the School of Advanced Military Studies, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He left the U.S. Army in 1992 after years of enlisted and commissioned service and obtained his Ph.D at Georgia State University. His publications include *Jayhawk! The VII Corps in the 1991 Persian Gulf War*, *The Road to Safwan*, and *Soldiers' Lives: The Post-Cold War Era*. Currently, he is writing a biography of Richard G. McKee, concentrating on McKee's role as VII Corps Chief of Staff and Commander of the 8th Infantry Regiment in Europe during World War II.

Operation Black Mail: One Woman's Covert War Against the Imperial Japanese Army by Ann Todd

Her talk rescheduled from October, author **Ann Todd** will join the Friends on **March 27, 2019, 2– 4 p.m.**, to tell the story of a remarkable woman who fought World War II on the front lines of psychological warfare. *Operation Black Mail: One Woman's Covert War Against the Imperial Japanese Army* is the story of Elizabeth "Betty" P. McIntosh (1915- 2015), who spent 18 months serving in the Office of Strategic Services in what has been called the "forgotten theater" of China-Burma-India. This is not a typical war story in that the only beaches stormed are the minds of an invisible enemy.

Ann Todd, who completed her research into Betty McIntosh's service as part of her dissertation project, earning a Ph.D in history at the University of Texas at Austin, has been a contributing author and consultant for the National Geographic Society, given presentations about OSS operations, and worked as a historian for the National Museum of the Marine Corps.



Ann Todd

Hast du deutsche Vorfahren?
GERMAN GENEALOGY WITH JAMES BEIDLER
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019
9 A.M. – 4 P.M.
THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY

***Seating is limited: Pre-registration
and pre-payment guarantees a seat***

Join genealogist and author James M. Beidler (www.jamesmbeidler.com)
for a daylong seminar that will help unlock information about your
German ancestors. The workshop will include:

- **Contrasting German Migrations: 18th Century vs. 19th Century Waves**
- **Zigzagging Through German Church Records**
- **German for Genealogists**
- **What's a Palatine Anyway?**

Advance Registration \$20 members of Friends of Thomas Balch Library;
\$25 non-members; \$35 at door, if space is available; lunch on your own.
Registration is non-refundable. For more information, call 703-737-7195
or visit www.leesburgva.gov/library

Number attending: _____

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Registration fee payment: Check payable to Friends of the Thomas Balch Library

Credit card [Visa or Mastercard only] fill out information below:

Name on Card: _____ Amount: _____

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Please include mailing address and phone number of card holder above.

Mail or deliver your registration to: **Thomas Balch Library, 208 West Market St. Leesburg, VA 20176**

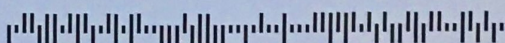


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Spring 2019 Programs & Exhibits

A Hope and a Future: Images From the Lives of Refugees—Constance de Bordenave
2 PM Sunday, March 10

Civil War Tour of Leesburg—10AM–12PM
Saturday, March 16 starting at the Library

Progressives in Navy Blue—Scott Mobley
2 PM Sunday, March 17

OSS Operation Black Mail—Ann Todd
7–9 PM Wednesday, March 27

Researching Using Court Records—
10 AM–12PM Thursday, April 4

Learning War—Trent Hone—2PM Sun., April 7

Leesburg Walking Tour—9 AM–12PM
Saturday, April 27, starting at the Library

Beyond the Beach: The Allied War Against France—Stephen Bourque—2PM Sunday, April 28

Reseach: From the Revolution to the 1940s Census— 10AM–12PM Thursday, May 2

Spring Seminar: German Genealogy—
9 AM–4 PM Wednesday, May 22

Margaret Mercer Room Exhibits

Barefoot Weaver Presents Handwoven Items—by Beth Wilson—March

World War II Letters of an Army Doctor—by Laura Zellman—April

Money, Money, Money—Cash Notes and Debts in Loudoun County—by Loudoun County Clerk's Office—May

Lower Level Meeting Room Exhibits

A Hope and a Future: Images From the Lives of Refugees—March

Seascapes, Landscapes, and Still Life
by Gertrude Evans—April through June

Programs are held in the downstairs meeting room and are free unless otherwise noted. For updates on programs, tours, and exhibits, please visit the Friends' website at balchfriends.org or the Library's website at <http://www.leesburgva.gov/government/departments/thomas-balch-library/library-events>