



CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY

A three county Library System serving 24 member libraries

NEWSLETTER

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It is the season for holly berries, for greeting old friends and new, for bright lights and holiday music - in short, it's Christmas! And from all of us at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library, the warmest of Christmas wishes and a cordial invitation to come in and see us in our new Headquarters. Merry Christmas!

NEW CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY BUILDING DEDICATED

Formal dedication of the new Headquarters building took place in Plattsburgh on Sunday, November 14. William A. Harvey, vice-president of the system Board of Trustees, was master of ceremonies.

Keynote speaker was Chester B. Ostrander, Executive Director of the New York State Trustees Foundation, who spoke on the role of libraries in the future. Mrs. Alfred Hecht, president of the Board of Trustees, welcomed the guests. Anthony F. Vecchio, Director of the library, talked about the library's function in the three county area, its services to member libraries and to the public through direct bookmobile service. He also discussed new areas of service to be opened up and the expansion of existing services.

Wayne Byrne, treasurer of the Board of Trustees, presented a key to the new library to Miss Emma Walter, original director of the system which began in 1954. He mentioned her foresight and the part she had played in establishing the library which was the first multi-county library system in New York State.

Also taking part in the program was the Reverend George Easter of St. John's-in-the Wilderness Church at Paul Smiths who gave the benediction. Rabbi Richard D. Messing of Temple Beth Israel, Plattsburgh, gave the invocation.

An Open House followed the formal ceremony of dedication and guests were invited to look over the offices, book stacks, audio-visual and machine rooms, and other features of the new building which was designed by Jeremiah Oosterbaan, Plattsburgh architect, and built by the Fletcher-Murnane Construction Company, also of Plattsburgh.

ADIRONDACK MATERIAL NOW BEING PUBLISHED

Librarians in the three county area will be interested in a variety of magazine, pamphlet and book material currently being published.

A new magazine ADIRONDACK LIFE contains articles and illustrations that include both historical and contemporary materials, including the conservation and preservation of the Adirondacks. It is published by Adirondack Life, Inc., Elizabethtown, New York 12932. Charter subscriptions are \$3.50 per year; after that period expires, March 1st, then the price will be \$4.00. It is a quarterly publication and the first issue, now out, is Winter, 1970.

Another publication of local interest is Maitland DeSormo's NOAH JOHN RONDEAU, ADIRONDACK HERMIT. Based on original sources from Rondeau's diary, his poetry and his correspondence, the book presents a vivid picture of the Hermit of Cold River (population 1) whose bailiwick was the High Peak section of Essex County. The price of the book is \$6.00 and may be ordered from North Country Books, Box 463, Saranac Lake, New York 12983.

The Essex Free Library has compiled a paperbound history of the Town of Essex, illustrated with photographs and maps, and including biographical sketches of early settlers. The booklet sells for \$1.25 and may be purchased from the Reverend Robert Bishop, Essex, New York.

A new book on Ticonderoga is out. Titled TICONDEROGA: PATCHES AND PATTERNS FROM ITS PAST, the book is published by the Ticonderoga Historical Society and is available from them for \$5.95. The book deliberately omits the famous military history of the village. Instead this is the story of the farms, businesses, mines, mills, churches and schools of Ticonderoga. One interesting chapter deals with Ticonderoga's role as a leading community in the breeding of trotters in the nineteenth century. The history is accompanied by an excellent selection of old photographs of the town.

Mrs. Arthur Baker of Cadyville, New York has published the first of a projected set of volumes on the Saranac area. The title is THE SARANAC VALLEY, vol. 1. priced at \$2.50 and available from the author. This is primarily a history of the Town of Saranac, with this volume covering the period from early Indian history up to 1850. Of special interest is the history of the Redford Glass Company and the reprinting of part of an old ledger kept in the early nineteenth century in Redford. The book is illustrated with excellent drawings done by Luthera Edie.

The following items have not yet been seen by our staff reviewers. A history of the town of Chazy has recently been completed by Mrs. Nellie Sullivan of Chazy and David Martin of West Chazy. It will be published in March. By sending a reservation to one of the authors now, you can get a copy for \$12.50; after March first, the price will be \$15.00.

A book about Altona will be published during the week of December fifteenth by Frank Connor of Altona. Copies will be available from Mr. Connor for \$3.00 plus 30¢ postage.

We have just learned of the publication of a paperbound book called LAKE PLACID, THE ADIRONDACK VILLAGE THAT BECAME FAMOUS, by George Carroll with a foreword by Lowell Thomas. The book is published by Thomas F. Barton of Glens Falls and contains many photographs, some from an early era in Lake Placid history. Price of the book is \$2.75 and is available from Glencraft Printing, Inc., Glens Falls. Copies are also on sale in Lake Placid bookstores.

TELEVISION SERIES FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Since November 10, 1969, the Children's Television Workshop of National Education Television has been presenting one of the most forward-looking programs for children by utilizing the television medium.

Designed to help prepare pre-schoolers for formal education through the teaching of basic skills, the program is titled, aptly enough, SESAME STREET. It includes, among other things, recognition of the letters of the alphabet, counting ability, geometric shapes, vocabulary, basic reasoning skills, and social concepts relating to the self and to the world. According to Gary Simpson, program manager of WETK (Channel 33), Burlington, Vermont, the program is carried on that station every day, Monday through Friday, from ten to eleven in the morning and will continue through May of 1970.

The program is sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation, the Ford Foundation and the U.S. Office of Education. We hope member librarians will alert their public to this valuable program for their pre-schoolers.

FACE-LIFT FOR BOOKMOBILE

The older of the two system bookmobiles has been repainted bright red to match the second bookmobile. Both bookmobiles are great attention-getters as they travel through the three counties and stop at 64 communities without local libraries to bring library service directly to people in these areas.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

Autographed copies of two novels by Leila Warren - FOUNDATION STONE and WHETSTONE WALLS - were given to this library by the author herself.

CHAMPLAIN FREE LIBRARY

The library moved into its new building on November third. For some years it had been housed in one room of the David Harrison home in Champlain. Mrs. Harrison, the librarian, tells us that not all of the new furniture has arrived but is expected shortly. Circulation at the new library has also gone up and the library is now open every afternoon Monday through Friday from two until five and from six-thirty until eight-thirty on Monday and Thursday evenings. A formal Open House will be held in the spring.

CHATEAUGAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

On display in this library are several letters that were mailed in Chateaugay between the years 1853-1892. Of special interest is an envelope mailed at Chateaugay Lake in 1881. This post office was established in 1885 and discontinued in 1928. Some of the earlier envelopes do not have stamps. Instead the amount of postage paid was stamped or written in the corner of the envelope. The display is the gift of Lawrence G. Mills of Malone, New York.

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY

The library recently presented a film program for children and plans to follow this with a regularly scheduled monthly showing of children's films during the winter. Library hours have been changed. The library will be open on Monday from 6:30 until 9:30 p.m.; on Wednesday from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m.; on Friday from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m.; and on Saturday from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m.

KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

A fall series of children's films has been presented by this library on Saturday mornings.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

The fifth Annual Paint and Palette Festival held in late summer in the Harrietstown Town Hall resulted in a gift of \$1,800 to the library to help complete furnishing the community room.

WELLS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UPPER JAY

Mrs. Leonard Cole who has been the librarian here for the past two years has resigned to move to Wilmington. Mrs. Carl Rielly has been appointed to replace her.

WESTPORT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Dr. and Mrs. Julius Mullen have donated the following books of historical interest to the library: THE HISTORY OF ESSEX COUNTY by Watson; TRAILS AND SUMMITS OF THE ADIRONDACKS by Walter O'Kane; LAKE CHAMPLAIN AND ITS SHORES by W.H.H. Murray; HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF NORTHERN NEW YORK AND THE ADIRONDACKS WILDERNESS by Nathaniel Sylvester.

STAFF NEWS

Normand Dumont resigned as the system's assistant director on December fifth. He is now assistant director at the Port Washington Public Library, Port Washington, New York. We are sure everyone at Headquarters and the member libraries will miss Norm.

And Thomas Wolfe was wrong! You Can Come Home Again! The North Country (and C-E-F) exerted too great a pull for this briefly transplanted San Franciscan - so Mary Leggett is once again back at Headquarters and enjoying our new building with all the rest of the staff.

Anthony F. Vecchio, Director
Mary G. Leggett, Editor

