



C-E-F TRAILBLAZER

Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System News

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Director

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Member Librarian Wins Award

Anna H. Rourke, librarian at the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center, Hogansburg, has been chosen for the 1974 Asa Wynkoop Award. This award is given annually to a librarian without formal professional training who has rendered outstanding library service to a community of 7,500 or less population. The award carries with it an honorarium of \$200, part of which could be used, as Mrs. Rourke did, to attend the New York Library Association Conference this year. The award was presented to her at the conference at the Concord Hotel at the banquet on Friday evening, November 8.

Our award winner is an unusual person - a librarian, not professionally trained perhaps, but nevertheless a

librarian - and a good one! She literally lives her library and her library shows it. She made the dream become the reality: a library that meets the changing, expanding needs of people on the reservation and reflects the pride and dignity of Indian culture.

Anna Rourke, née Anna Hemlock, is a Mohawk Indian who was born in St. Regis, Quebec. She and her husband, Andrew Rourke, a high steel worker for the Alcoa Corporation, are the parents of seven children.

Because she had wanted to have for people on the reservation the opportunities that existed elsewhere, Anna Rourke, together with other deeply interested people, conceived the idea for the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center. The rich, musical Mohawk word "Akwesasne" means "Where the partridge drums", a fit description of this windy, grassy area of the North Country. She worked hard to gain support for her idea and was supported in her belief that such a library could succeed by others on the reservation who caught the fire of her enthusiasm. Although Mrs. Rourke's early schooling was on the reservation, she was able to get training in the basic practical aspects of running a library at the Mohawk School, Salmon River High School, in Hogansburg and at the Massena Public Library. When the Akwesasne Center opened in September 1971, she was taking extension courses from Mater Dei College and from North

Country Community College - and in 1974 she is still taking courses in a variety of subjects.

Mrs. Rourke made the initial application for the grant from the Library Services and Construction Act funds. She is quick to remind us that she had help from many people in building up the library's collection but the first impetus was hers. Her library offers all the customary services: the best of adult fiction and non-fiction books, young adult and children's books. It also has magazines, newspapers, filmstrips and offers an active film program. The adult independent learner is welcomed here and given guidance and support in selection of materials. The library is truly international, since the reservation spans the borders of both Canada and the United States, and its bookmobile, converted from an old school bus, travels from one country to the other to reach all corners of the reservation. The library collection meets its goals: to serve all the people of the reservation, to meet the demands of intercultural living, and to restore some of the aspects of Indian culture that have been almost lost over the years. Akwesasne offers the best of two worlds: the world of the traditional library and the world of traditional Indian culture.

Anna Rourke has encouraged Indian artists to display their work in the library and has built up, along with the general collection, an impressive collection of books and manuscripts on the American Indian. Intensely proud of her heritage, she speaks Mohawk, and appreciates Indian arts and crafts and wants to pass this knowledge on to the children of the reservation.

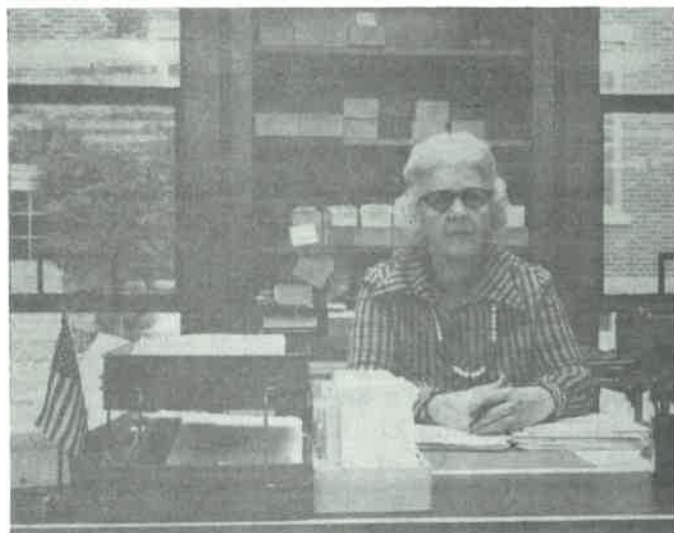
Anna Rourke is vitally concerned with Indian Affairs. She is an active member of the National Indian Education Association and attends its conferences. She has worked, not only on the library but also on the tribal museum which is in the same building. She went out and begged or borrowed materials for the museum showcases where one can see the Indian way of life over the years. And in all her endeavors she has had the strong support of the Canadian Band Council and the Tribal Council in Hogansburg.

The Akwesasne Library is her life. It is a library alive with color and warmth, with a good collection and with a warm, friendly staff, and most of all, a very real interest in each person who enters its door, reflecting strongly the personality of Anna Rourke, Librarian.

In her acceptance speech at the Concord, Anna stressed the fact that she was not accepting the award for herself, but rather for her library and for the many people who had helped her to establish the Akwesasne Library. She particularly thanked Beatrice Cole, Margaret Jacobs, and Mary Lou Phillips, all librarians at Akwesasne Library; Alice Bero, former director of the Massena Public Library; Sandy Kukle, librarian at Salmon River Junior High School; Anne Russell, librarian at the Mohawk School in Hogansburg; Alice Dodge, now retired from the North Country Library System; the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library for its services and encouragement; and the Tribal Council who backed them every inch of the way.

We at Headquarters are very proud of Anna Rourke - and we extend our heartiest congratulations to her and to the rest of the staff at the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center on this award.

Mary G. Leggett, Editor



Jane Llewellyn

JANE LLEWELLYN TO RETIRE

For many years Jane Llewellyn has a familiar face and a helping hand to many

member librarians - and so it is with a good deal of regret we announce her retirement in December.

Jane has been with the System, almost from the very beginning, from January 1955, to be exact. At that time there were only six people working for the System and it was located upstairs over Plattsburgh Public Library, an awkward and unwieldy distance to lug books up and down stairs. Jane remembers the move to the basement headquarters, where the System was housed until its move into the present building in 1969.

Although she started as a clerk with the System, Jane became bookmobile librarian in 1957. Her travel experiences as a service wife were excellent background for her new job as librarian on the bookmobile for then Clinton and Essex counties. Listening to her talk about bookmobiling in those days makes one realize what an intimate, coffee-kitch type of business the bookmobile was - and how much people looked forward to its coming. "People came to look for us if we were late," she reminisced, "and we knew who was sick or who just had a baby. We knew whose kids were not doing well in school and which ones won scholarships, many times with the help of books we brought to them on the bookmobile. It was a very satisfactory first-hand experience with people who let you know that the bookmobile was a very important part of their lives."

In 1963, Jane became principal library clerk in the technical services department and stopped bookmobiling except for emergencies when she would happily substitute. Member librarians were always grateful for her help and she knew most of them by name. When it was time to do annual reports each year, she would take special pains to help any librarian with problems.

Jane worked for four different system directors: Emma Walters, Ed Berry, Anthony Vecchio, and Mr. Ransom - and she will tell you that she learned from each of them. She will be retiring soon and her place will not be easy to fill. We find it hard to imagine Jane placidly retiring and we know she will

be an active worker for good library service for many years to come. And with her go our warmest wishes for a happy retirement!

Mary G. Leggett

PR EXPERT BETTY RICE TO HEAD WORKSHOP

Public relations in a library is the interface of the entire range of library services and personnel with the entire range of the library's public. It is not merely news stories or other publicity, it is the face which the library presents to its community. Public relations involves the attitude of the staff, the ways in which the public uses the library and the ease with which the public uses the library's services.

On Wednesday November 20th the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System is honored to present to you the foremost expert on public relations for public libraries, Mrs. Betty Rice. Mrs. Rice, President of Betty Rice Associates, a public relations firm, and lecturer on library public relations for Long Island University's Palmer Graduate Library School, is the author of "Public Relations for Public Libraries."

You are cordially invited to attend the workshop which will start with a stimulating talk by Mrs. Rice at 10:00 a.m. (Come at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and fresh doughnuts!). Bring your lunch and we will furnish coffee and tea from 12: - 1.

From 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. there will be two discussion groups, one on Displays and Exhibits, led by Mrs. Rice, and one on Public Programs and Events, led by the System Director. These programs will be repeated from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Added attraction No. 1: Distribution of Mrs. Rice's book "Public Relations for Public Libraries" to each member library.

Added attraction No. 2: For those member libraries who are present, a drawing for a free reference book for your library.

Of all the workshops and meetings, this one should not be missed.

See you there!

Stanley A. Ransom



Mrs. Elaine Dwyer, System Trustee, relaxes in Malone's Wead Library with a book from the Clinton-Essex-Franklin rotating collection .

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONVENTION
HELD NOVEMBER 6-9

We are delighted to announce that several member librarians and a trustee of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library were able to attend the New York Library Association conference at the Concord Hotel earlier this month: Verna Pungitore and Annette Kovic from Plattsburgh; Anna Rourke and Beatrice Cole from Akwesasne; Zaidee Trumbull of the Keene Valley Library Association and Teresa Dixon of Lake Placid Public Library; and Mrs. Elaine Dwyer, a trustee of Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library. These yearly conferences are an invaluable aid to all librarians and trustees and we hope to see more attending next year.

Mr. Ransom, Richard Ward, Rose Waddell, Hugh Starke and Mary Leggett represented Headquarters at the conference.

VISITS TO MEMBER LIBRARIES

Mr. Ransom and members of the consultant staff visited several libraries last month. Mr. Ransom has now met with librarians and trustees of the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center; Plattsburgh Public Library; Goff-Nelson Memorial Library, Tupper Lake; Saranac Lake Free Library; Wead Library, Malone; Chateaugay Memorial Library; Dodge Memorial Library,

Rouses Point; Champlain Memorial Library; Mooers Free Library; Ellenburg Depot Public Library; and Peru Free Library. The remaining twenty libraries will be visited within the next two months.

While the visits are brief, Mr. Ransom and the staff review the services, needs and problems of each library and schedule further visits as needed.



Mary Reynolds enjoys a new children's book at the Chateaugay Memorial Library

REVENUE SHARING FUNDS FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARIES

\$10,000 in revenue sharing funds has been approved for library purposes by the Franklin County Legislature. The funds will be distributed on the basis of the population each library is chartered to serve, according to the 1970 census. Wead Library in Malone will receive \$5,110; Goff-Nelson Library in Tupper Lake will receive \$2,390; Saranac Lake Free Library will receive \$2,140; and the Chateaugay Memorial Library will receive \$360. The funds will come to the libraries in the form of book and library materials grants which will be administered by the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System.

Credit for successfully pursuing approval from the legislative body goes to Mr. Robert Hanna, President of Wead Library, whose persistence and persuasive powers paid off.



Librarian Joyce Meagher examines an inscribed Robert Louis Stevenson item from the Adirondack Collection of the Saranac Lake Free Library.

STUDENT HELP AT HEADQUARTERS

Gail Johnson, Lucy Andersen, and Mary Sztabnik, all college students at SUNY at Plattsburgh, and Sue LaVarnway, a senior high school student, have been assigned to work at Headquarters by various governmental agencies.

CLINTON COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A Clinton County Library Association is in the process of being formed. The initial organizing meeting at the Plattsburgh State University College's Campus School Library on October 29th drew some thirty-one professional librarians from school, college and public libraries of Clinton County. Mrs. Nilah Hausdorf, hostess for the first meeting, and the steering committee presented a filmstrip and panel discussion on Copyright and the Library. One panelist was Plattsburgh Public Library Director, Verna Pungitore. Nominating, Program and Constitution Committees were formed and buzz sessions recorders reported on the consensus on goals, programs, format of meetings and structure of the association. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday evening, January 28th, at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System.

BI-CENTENNIAL FILMS

One library has already booked "AND TAKE ME BY THE HAND", our new New York State 30mm. bi-centennial film for July 7, 1975! Quite a few days remain in between for you to book our several films. They are:

AND TAKE ME BY THE HAND Color 30 min.

Depicts events from Plattsburgh to Long Island, largely emphasizing the events which took place all along Lake Champlain and the Hudson River.

1776 Color 52 min.

Chronicles the events leading up to the Declaration of Independence. Narrates and interprets the roles of leading figures: Franklin, Adams, Jefferson, Hamilton, Madison, Washington.

MAKING A REVOLUTION Color 52 min.

Alistair Cooke comments and explores the causes of the revolution, how it developed and how it led to the Declaration of Independence.

INVENTING A NATION Color 52 min.

Describes the beginnings of constitutional government in a fresh and lively perspective on U.S. history.

For reservation and booking of these films, please call Marie Chauvin at Headquarters: 563-5190



These wall mounts for display of C-E-F framed art were designed by Carol Dening, Librarian at Tupper Lake's Goff-Nelson Memorial Library.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

Mrs. Daniel Manning, Sr. is organizing a Friends of the Library group. At a kick-off luncheon in her home, Mrs. Manning enlisted the help of Joanne Manning, Emilia Nolan, Kay McKinnon, Gerry LaGoy, and Betty Mintzer to plan a meeting of friends on November 13 at a light buffet supper at Mrs. Manning's home. Each volunteer is requested to bring five friends to this meeting. The speaker will be Verna Pungitore, Director of Plattsburgh Public Library, who has an active group of Friends of the Library working for her library.

CHAMPLAIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars who meet in this library each month presented a flag and flag-pole to the library recently. After the flag-raising ceremony, punch and cookies were served to those attending.

Many local organizations use the library as a meeting place: the Girl Scouts; the Boy Scout Executive Committee; a group from Three Steeples Church; and the firemen who have been giving a four week course in First Aid here.

A series of eight different book-marks having historical themes relating to the Champlain area have been designed for the library by Woody McClellan.

Mr. Bruce Cliffe is giving the Sunday issues of the New York Times to the library.

A handsome quilt made by the Senior Citizens group is on display in the library. It will be given to a needy family in the area.

The exterior display case features a collection of ceramic animals belonging to Mrs. Arthur Tremblay of Rouses Point.

The annual house-to-house canvass for funds for the library will get underway in November.

CHATEAUGAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

A generous bequest of \$500 has been left to the Chateaugay Memorial Library by Mrs. Julia Hammond, late trustee of the library. The library has benefited greatly from many memorial gifts. Mrs. Jarvis, librarian, suggests that all libraries should encourage the gifts of books and bequests as a form of memorial that benefits the entire community.

CHAZY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The new Ralph C. McCuen Children's Room is scheduled tentatively for completion by October 31.

KEENE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mrs. Daniel Manning of AuSable Forks gave a copy of Lincoln Barnett's book, "The Ancient Adirondacks" to this library in memory of Francis Hickey who died recently.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

On October 4, the trustees and friends of the library gathered to honor a great friend and strong supporter of the library: Hal Burton. Over the past six years, Mr. Burton has given over 2,000 books to the library which gives Keene Valley one of the finest collections of art books in the North Country.

Jossey Bilan of Alstead Hill had been commissioned to paint Mr. Burton's portrait which was unveiled and hung by the artist at the gathering in Mr. Burton's honor.

Mrs. Charles Reynolds has been appointed trustee to fill the position left vacant by Mrs. Douglas Fowler who moved to Massena.

The library was headquarters for over 400 members of the ADK who were in Keene Valley for Adirondack Weekend.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

"Bolero", a Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library film of the Los Angeles City Symphony, was used at St. Mark's Episcopal Church as part of a recent

church service. The musical performance was used to illustrate the manner in which religion can orchestrate life. It was pointed out that we are not as successful or effective working as individuals as we are working "in concert" through groups, such as a church group.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

The Mooers Library is conducting its annual library association membership drive.

Mrs. Vogan, the librarian, tells us that the outside trim on the library has recently been painted and some inside painting is also to be done.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library sponsored a Cider and Doughnut Festival from seven to nine on the evening of October 30 in the lower level of the library. Live entertainment was furnished by Frank Wells and Tony Barcomb; Ralph Shepard on the bagpipes; and "The Merry-makers", a barber-shop quartet. Over \$200 was raised towards the children's room.

The Phi Epsilon Chi fraternity held a "slave day" on Saturday, November 2 - proceeds from selling services of the slaves went to the fund for the library children's room.

The library is holding a historical film series that started on Wednesday, October 23 and will continue every other week through December 4. Films are shown in the auditorium of the library at 7:30 p.m. Over 76 people saw the first film: Highways of History: The Hudson-Champlain Valley.

The library now owns two record players with headsets, one of which was donated by the Plattsburgh Mothers' Club.

Anne Roman, reference librarian, is taking a six week course at SUNY of Plattsburgh on U.S. census publications and how to use them in reference work.

Students in grades K through 8 have been invited to participate in a poster contest for Children's Book Week. The contest is sponsored by the Friends of the Plattsburgh Public Library.

The library has established a new book station at the Sacred Heart Nursing Home, bringing the number of library book stations to a total of six.

Sarah Ransom, daughter of Clinton-Essex-Franklin's director, is working as a volunteer several afternoons a week at Plattsburgh Public.

An exhibit of Far-Eastern antique brasses is being featured in the library showcase.

A charming new bookmark for the library carries a poem on books by the director, Verna Pungitore.

BLACK WATCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TICONDEROGA

Cathy Zeigman, a student teacher in the Ticonderoga School System, will conduct a story hour for pre-schoolers at the Black Watch Library.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary G. Leggett, Editor

