THE LONG, HOT SUCCESSFUL SUMMER - 1975

Summer programs at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library kept the staff very busy and the public highly aware of the System and its wide variety of services.

Over 3,000 people stopped at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library's special display at the Clinton County Fair in Plattsburgh on July 28, the Essex County Fair in Westport on August 15 and the Franklin County Fair in Malone on August 18.

Continual entertainment under the bright yellow and red library tent presented films, puppet shows, story-telling and shadow theatre - live theatre interspersed with colorful short children's films. The Puppet Lady and The Story Lady who had delighted children all over the three counties at the bookmobile stops were a main feature at the library tent. Marie Chauvin showed films to almost 1,100 children.

One of the big red tri-county bookmobiles was parked right next to the library tent, convenient for everyone to step on board and inspect the well-stocked shelves of books of all kinds. On the bookmobile, fair-goers were able to register for door prizes - attractively illustrated children's books and best-sellers for adults. These prizes were generously donated by the Friar Tuck Book Shop at Pyramid Mall, Plattsburgh, for each of the three county fair days.

Chaired by Carol Bedore, with John Crager as co-chairperson, the library's display was a decided success. Joan Bell of Headquarters designed and sewed the gay red and yellow calico identification banner that was strung high over the tent and attracted people to the library program.

Director Stanley Ransom demonstrated his prowess as a county fair "barker" as he lured on-lookers to the lively programs under the tent. Other staff members who were at the fair answering questions, registering patrons and touting System services were: Madge Mehan, Alan Hutchins, Bob Harnden, Mary Leggett. Our picture pages this month show the staff and the public at the county fairs.

Mrs. Elaine Edmonds, President of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Board of Trustees, attended both the Clinton and Essex County Fairs. Mrs. Elaine Dwyer, another Trustee, visited the Franklin County Fair. Mr. Robert Hanna, President of the Weed Library, also stopped by to visit the Franklin County display.

Reaction of both children and adults attending the displays at the county fairs was both interest and enthusiasm for System programs and services.
The Story Lady and The Puppet Lady were prime attractions at all 69 bookmobile stops in the three counties this summer. Barbara Baumann served as Story Lady through July. Peggy Shepard was Story Lady for August. Janet Kois, The Puppet Lady, was on the bookmobiles all summer. Children and parents gathered at each stop to hear a story or be amused by Janet’s puppets. Circulation rose again this summer as bookmobile personnel Alan Hutchins, Mary Hopkins, Madge Mehan and Bob Harnden reported at the finish of the summer season.

John H.G. Pell, President of the Fort Ticonderoga Association and author of the definitive biography of its hero, Ethan Allen, was the speaker at the annual luncheon of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System held at the Royal Savage Inn, Plattsburgh, on August 4. Mr. Pell discussed the history of the Champlain Valley and the importance of Fort Ticonderoga in our national history—a most appropriate topic for the Bicentennial celebration. Over one hundred trustees, librarians and friends were present at this annual meeting.

Mary G. Leggett, Editor

FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK

A look ahead at this Fall shows an exciting one is at hand. Work is proceeding on the Adult Independent Learning Directory, which will list formal and informal educational opportunities in the area. Both librarians and their patrons should find this useful.

Monday, October 27, has been scheduled for the workshop for member librarians on the Adult Independent Learner and the Library. This is your chance to see how your library can relate to this dynamic program of helping people educate themselves with your help and our support.

Bids for portable videotape equipment have been sent out. This equipment will also be used in the Adult Independent Learning program and will be made available to member libraries.

NYLA Legislative Committee met August first with renewed determination to succeed in making positive legislative changes this year. We will be able to use the same bills to present to the Legislature this year as last year, since these are two-year bills. Last year we were able to present our bills very well and with the many letters, cards and calls all of you made, we had an excellent chance of success. The System bill actually passed the Senate, and the Blind and Handicapped Bill seemed about to pass. But the situation changed toward the end, either for political or fiscal reasons, and no funding bills passed. The Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center received $10,000 as a welcome surprise. It was included by Assemblyman K. Daniel Haley in the Legislature’s Supplementary Budget, not from a bill.

Please help us again to explain the desperate situation of libraries and let Senator Ronald Stafford and Assemblyman Andrews Ryan and Assemblyman K. Daniel Haley know of your needs and your feelings. They have been most helpful and cooperative but need to hear from you if their arguments in our favor are to carry weight.

LSCA Grants are being applied for at this moment. While some are deferred pending availability of funds, we are applying for funds for Akwesasne Library, for the Adult Independent Learning Program and are using our $5,000 "Swing money" to start a books-by-mail service to the unserved rural residents of our three counties. The North Country Library System, directed by Mr. Ronald Roberts, has agreed to add our three rural areas to their very successful books-by-mail program.

Member library questionnaires are being returned and analyzed. Thank you for replying. There seems to be less interest in adding games to our library services, and more interest in the mending or conservation of books, the adult independent learners and in oral history. More about these later.

Stanley A. Ransom
Mr. Ransom and John Crager put up tent frame as Carol Bedore clips grass

Everyone pitches in to fasten the tent.

Interior of tent ready for films and children.

Tent and bookmobile at Clinton County Fair.

Kids obviously enjoying a story under the tent.

Janet and her puppet attract a crowd.
Left to right: Carol Bedore, John Crager, President of Board Elaine Edmonds, Stanley Ransom.

People come and go from tent to bookmobile at Essex County Fair.

Madge Mehan, foreground, helps locate a bookmobile stop for fair-goer.

All set up and ready at the Franklin County Fair.

Trustee Elaine Dwyer and Stanley Ransom at Franklin County Fair.

Bunny Bell and Mary Leggett, in rear, explain System to visitors at Franklin County Fair.
IN MEMORIAM

We regret to announce the death on August 30 of Stanley Austin Ransom, Sr. of West Hartland, Connecticut. Mr. Ransom was a local historian and founder of the Hartland Public Library. He was the father of Stanley A. Ransom, Jr., Director of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System.

HEADQUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

ADULT INDEPENDENT LEARNER WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

A workshop for teaching member librarians how to work with adult independent learners is scheduled for Monday, October 27, at Headquarters. Anne Romans and Annette Kovic of Plattsburgh Public Library, along with Mary Leggett and Richard Ward of Headquarters will be leading this workshop.

In conjunction with this project, we are also compiling a Continuing Education Directory which will list both private and public agencies that offer alternative adult educational opportunities in the three county area. The Directory will also serve as a reference and referral tool for librarians, educators, and counselors working with adult independent learners. Copies will be made available to all public libraries in the three counties.

A last training session in this field will be held at the Mid-York Library System in Utica on September 19.

BICENTENNIAL BOOKLIST

The System has just published the second in its series of Bicentennial booklists. Titled The Local Scene, it lists books on local history, on the Champlain Valley and Ticonderoga, on Burgoyne's march to Saratoga, as well as biographies of people of the Revolution pertinent to New York State. This new annotated list was prepared by Richard Ward, System Reference Consultant.

DIRECTOR INTERVIEWED ON LOCAL RADIO STATION

Leon Kelly, news director of WEAV, Plattsburgh, interviewed Director Stanley Ransom on his program, Perspective, in August. The program was aired August 31. In his interview, Mr. Ransom discussed System services and the funding of the library system as well as explaining the difficulties of maintaining the levels of service needed by people in the three county area at the present level of funding.

WORKSHOP ON SUPERVISORY SKILLS

Carol Bedore of Technical Services at Headquarters will be attending an all-day workshop at Syracuse University on September 19. This conference on Sharpening Your Supervision Skills is co-sponsored by the Central New York Library Resources Council, Five Associated University Libraries, and the Syracuse University School of Information Studies Alumni Association. The workshop is planned to aid in understanding the motivation process and applying it to yourself and your organization.

CONSULTANT VISITS

Rose Waddell, Children's Consultant, and John Crager, Young Adult Consultant, visited libraries at Westport and Elizabeth-town on August 26.

Mr. Ransom visited the Sherman Free Library in Port Henry on July 19 and the Wells Memorial Library in Upper Jay on July 31.

Mary Leggett, Adult Services Consultant, and Richard Ward, Reference Consultant, met with librarians at Upper Jay and the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center in July. They plan other visits to Upper Jay, AuSable Forks, and Rouses Point during September.

Hugh Starke visited Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center on September 9.
BOOKS PURCHASED FOR COUNTY JAILS

Under the special grant for correctional institutions given by the New York State Legislature, books are being bought for the three county jails and will be sent to them very shortly.

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED TO LIBRARIES

During July and August, Headquarters sent out to all member libraries copies of the North Country Guide for the Adirondack Mountain-Lake Champlain Region. This guide lists motels, camp- sites, restaurants, attractions, sports, etc.

We also sent out posters on Vegetable Soup, a new television series for children which will be broadcast this fall on NBC and public television. The series is planned to celebrate the positive values of human diversity and to counter the destructive effects of racial isolation.

Another pamphlet sent out described how one may avail himself of toll-free cancer information. Roswell Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo has prepared a library of taped messages concerning various aspects and treatment of cancer. Anyone may call the toll-free number and request the number and title of the particular tape of interest to him. Thirty-six tapes are available.

The American Cancer Society also has a catalog of films and film-strips for public education about cancer.

NOTICES

Deadline for Book Grant Orders is November 1, 1975. Please check to see that your orders have been completed and sent to the jobber.

System Headquarters has acquired a new large size Dymo Labeler that prints 3/4 inch letters and numbers on black or woodgrain tape. It is ideal for making labels for your shelves and may be borrowed for one week upon request.

TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

Paul E. Vogan, Vice-President of the Board of Trustees of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library and chairman of the Mooers Bicentennial Committee, reports that the "Horse and Buggy Days" exhibit at Mooers Elementary School on Labor Day was a great success. About 1,000 people visited the exhibit of old tools, machinery, furniture, clothing, documents, pictures, cars, etc. Mr. Vogan had made slides from old pictures and postcards loaned by many people. These were shown three times during the day.

COMMUNITY PLANS AND PROJECTS

The City of Plattsburgh held a Bicentennial Celebration on September 9 and 10 at which the McDonough Monument was formally deeded to the City from the U.S. Department of General Services. The Armed Forces Bicentennial Caravan was also on hand for visitors to inspect. Bands, regiments, fife and drum corps, and Plattsburgh's own Bicentennial Regiment were among the daily attractions. System's Richard Ward is a member of this Regiment; he is also a member of the City Bicentennial Commission.

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The Clinton County Nutrition Program for the Elderly is serving a hot, nutritionally balanced mid-day meal at four sites in the county: the Salvation Army Building, 229 South Catherine Street, Plattsburgh, which serves Monday through Friday; Assumption of Mary School in Redford which serves Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; St. Edmund's Parish Hall in Ellenburg on Tuesday and Thursday; and Three Steeple Church in Champlain on Mondays and Fridays.

The only requirement for participants in this program is that they be at least 60 years old or have a participating spouse who is 60. This is not a free meal; confidential contributions may be made by participants to the extent they are able to do so.

Although the program, a Title VII grant that is ninety per cent federal and ten percent county funded, is primarily designed
to meet nutritional needs of Clinton County residents over 60 years old, it is also planned to provide an opportunity for socialization, recreation, information and referral service. There may be a need for library services or programs.

For more information, call the sponsoring agency, The Clinton County Office of the Aging, at 561-2420; the Salvation Army at 561-2951; or Mrs Maureen Layhee, project director, at 561-2951.

**THREE R'S MEETING HELD**

An all-day meeting of the North Country Reference and Research Resources Council was held on September 11 at the Valcour Educational Conference Center of State University College at Plattsburgh.

Dr. David J. Fischer, Physical Scientist of the Corning Museum of Glass, presented two subjects. In the morning session, Dr. Fischer spoke on "Conservation Problems and Approaches to a Solution as Experienced at Corning Museum." He illustrated his talk with slides showing the flood damage to books and manuscripts at the Corning Museum. After lunch, Dr. Fischer presented "Approaches to Solving State-Wide Conservation Problems for Paper, Books and Historically Significant Materials."

Mr. Ransom, Rose Waddell, Mary Legget, Richard Ward and Hugh Starke attended the meeting from Headquarters.

**AREA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION TO MEET**

There will be a meeting of the Northern Adirondack Library Association at the Comprehensive Educational Center, The Campus School, Rugar Street, Plattsburgh, on Saturday, October 18. Coffee and doughnuts will be served from 9:00-9:30 a.m., with a brief business meeting following until 10:00 a.m. Joe Swinyer, Head of Technical Services at Feinberg Library, is program chairman for this meeting.

At ten, two different workshops will run simultaneously. One will be a demonstration of mending all types of library materials. The other, led by Glyndon Cole, will be a talk on the conservation of historical materials - this will be particularly geared to the small public library. A box lunch will be served at noon. In the afternoon, participants may bring special problems in mending or in historical material and these will receive direct attention at that time.

The meeting is open to all member librarians and trustees of the System, as well as all Association members. You do not have to be a member of the Northern Adirondack Library Association in order to attend this workshop. Member librarians will receive their usual lunch and mileage allowance for this meeting as they do for any System workshop.

Membership in the Adirondack Library Association is open to all librarians, trustees, library employees and members of Friends of the Library Association. Dues are $3.00 a year. We encourage all librarians to join this organization.

Flyers will be sent out early in October for reservations for this workshop. Be sure to plan ahead to attend this important meeting.

**MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES**

**AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY**

A very successful tag day was held recently under the direction of Miss Helen Douglass, Vice President of the Board of Trustees.

Plans are being made for the library's annual book sale which will be held this fall.

New shelves have been built and installed for paperback books.

Many books have been donated in memory of Mr. William McCleary of AuSable Acres. His wife, Mildred McCleary, gave the library a handsome copy of The Art of Walt Disney.
DANNEBROA FREE LIBRARY

Mrs. Wallace Haley, the librarian, reports that 80 readers completed the summer reading program, "Gone Readin'" at this library in August.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The summer Monday night programs at this library were well attended by about 140 people each week.

Susan Bigelow, a Junior in high school, was a page at the library during July and August. This is Susan's second summer at the library.

Two new trustees have been elected to the Board of Trustees of this library: Mr. Ray Manley and Mrs. George Bright.

Mr. Charles Reynolds has made a new rotating book shelf designed to hold picture books in the children's room.

Dr. John Nason, President of the Keene Valley Board of Trustees, has just published a report to the Commission on the Future of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges. It is titled: The Future of Trusteeship, the Role and Responsibilities of College and University Boards.

The library has received as a gift the new thirty volume Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Miss Trumbull, the librarian, reports that circulation for the past year rose to 17,381, an increase of 1,396 over the previous year. Over 8,040 people visited the library during that period.

KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

The month of July saw a display of shells in the Juvenile Section of the library. Exhibited were shells of all sizes and types, as well as coral and animals made from shells.

In August, the library had a display of driftwood. Several of the more elaborately decorated pieces were courtesy of Mrs. Barbara Robertson. The summer campers were especially interested in the different treatments of driftwood.

August also saw the conclusion of the summer reading club. "Ecology - Our World" was this year's theme and 46 children participated. A book was presented at the end of the program after a random drawing of names.

The Keeseville Bicentennial Committee has painted the outside display case and fences a "Revolutionary" red, white and blue. People have said that now they really notice the library.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

David Minnich, the librarian, was interviewed on radio station WICY's program, The Summer of 75. Dave discussed the Wead Library and its interplay with the System and System services.

The library had an old book sale in July on the lawn. The event was a social as well as a financial success. Edward Cohen, Treasurer of the Wead Library Board of Trustees, reported that more than $200 was raised for the library.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

A personal anecdote from Verna Pungitore, Director of Plattsburgh Public, emphasizes the satisfaction of reference work. Here it is in her own words.

"I suspect that for most reference librarians the prime source of enjoyment and job satisfaction is in the "challenge of the chase." It's fun to follow up leads and work out clues in order to track down an elusive answer.

Occasionally a patron will return later to report the help he received earned her first place in the science fair or cured his ailing African violet. When this kind of feedback occurs, it is an extra bonus for
the librarian who, all too seldom, sees evidence of tangible consequences of his research effort. Nor does he expect any.

This summer we at Plattsburgh Public were given a giant "extra bonus" when we learned that a bit of research work on our part had aided in re-uniting a family.

It began with a letter from a woman downstate who was trying to trace the present whereabouts of her natural parents and two sisters. She had been given up for adoption at three years of age and knew only the parents' names, but not those of her sisters, nor their birth dates.

Current sources yielded nothing, while mention of the parents in the old city directories stopped in the 1950's. However, through the directories we were able to locate names and addresses of several former employers of the couple. A cross-check of the current city directory provided us with one person whose name and address matched that listed as the mother's last employer.

This slim lead paid off handsomely, for the person not only remembered the couple but knew the married name and current address of one of the daughters.

In her letter telling us that she and her sisters had held a telephone reunion as a "first wonderful step" toward becoming re-acquainted, our correspondent thanked us for helping her to end what she termed a "very long search."

Chasing down the answer was an enjoyable academic exercise; learning of its effect on the lives of these three sisters was a gratifying and warming experience. It taught us anew that "patrons are people" - and they need libraries!

Verna Purginore

Starting October 2, the library will resume the preschool story hour for children ages 3-6. Parents are asked to register their children in one of four groups before October 1. The times are Thursday 9:30-10:15a.m.; 10:45-11:30 a.m.; 2:15-3:00 p.m. and 3:30-4:15p.m. In the beginning, the programs may only last half an hour depending on the children's attention span. In any event, parents are asked to remain in the library during story-time.

Also starting in October will be a Saturday crafts workshop, tentatively scheduled for every other Saturday morning. Projects will be constructed under supervision at the library with materials the children bring from home.

Since June, Mrs. Ruth Patterson, an RSVP volunteer, has been helping in the children's room. During the summer months she has given all day Thursday to doing many useful and time consuming jobs. Starting in October, she will also be helping with the story hours.

Mr. Alexander Edwards was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees, replacing Dr. Charles Holt. Mr. John Fitzpatrick has also resigned from the Board; his replacement has not yet been named.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

New trustees elected to the Board of this library recently were Mrs. Janet Decker and Larry Poole. They succeed Mrs. Ruth White and Mr. John Duquette, both of whom are retiring from the Board. Also re-elected to the Board were D. Mott Chapin, John Delahant and William Steeken. Other Board members are Thomas Cantwell, Esther Mirick, Jeanne DeMattos, Ronald Leahy and Jane Keet. At an organizational meeting of the Board, Thomas Cantwell was elected President; John Delahant, Vice President; Esther Mirick, Treasurer; Jeanne DeMattos, Secretary.
The annual membership drive is underway for 1975. Last year $6,611 was raised; it is hoped that this year's figure will be even higher.

A children's art exhibit representing the work of students in the elementary grades of the Saranac Lake School District was on display in the Community Room. There were over 250 pieces of art created by students.

"Come to the Fair", the annual fund-raising affair sponsored by the Friends of the Library, was held in the Community Room of the library on August 5. There was a large display of books, toys, flowers, candy, pine pillows and white elephant items from which to choose.

The Charles Dickert Memorial Wild Life Museum, located in the Natural History Room of the library, was open for the summer during regular library hours. This display contains a variety of mounted wild animals, birds and fish.

BLACK WATCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TICONDEROGA

The ladies of the Carillon Garden Club in Ticonderoga placed four flower filled boxes under the front windows of the library and plan to maintain them both summer and winter. They enhance not only the building but the main street as well.

Mrs. Morton, the librarian, brought Mrs. Carol Vosburg, a nurse from the Moses Ludington Nursing Home in Ticonderoga, and Robert Kilmer, a patient at that facility, to Headquarters to select art prints to be borrowed for a period of six weeks for the nursing home. Robert Kilmer is considered the artist in residence at the home and fully enjoyed the trip to Headquarters to select the art prints.

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TUPPER LAKE

There are several changes in the library staff. The retirement of Mrs. Carolyn Dening, who had announced earlier her intention to leave at the end of September, was accepted with regret by the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Chalice Dechene has been appointed to succeed her. Mrs. Dechene has been a member of the library staff since July, 1959. Upon the retirement of Mrs. Grace Jessie from the Downtown Branch Library in the fall of 1967, she replaced her as librarian there. Mrs. Judy Frey will take over the coverage of the hours Mrs. Dechene previously spent at the Branch. Mrs. Sarah Adams has joined the library staff as library technician. Mrs. Adams is a graduate of Johnson State College in Johnson, Vermont, where she majored in library science. Mrs. Adams has been Mrs. Kent Adams for just about one week. Note: We at Headquarters will miss Carolyn Dening and her enthusiasm for libraries very much indeed and wish her a most pleasant retirement.

The library hosted the third Annual Art Show sponsored by the Tupper Lake Chamber of Commerce from July 27 to August 2. Seventy-eight paintings by area artists from Tupper Lake, Long Lake, Malone, Saranac Lake, Canton and Rainbow Lake were displayed. During the show, a good number of paintings were sold.

The North Country Community College began its fall term classes in the Community Room of the library during the week of September 8. There are presently nine classes meeting in the newly renovated room. The walls have been panelled, the ceiling lowered, and a folding door installed to divide the large room into two classrooms when necessary. The effect is a much more attractive and comfortable environment. The morning segment of the classes is designed particularly for the seniors of the Tupper Lake High School, although other community members are welcome.
resumes in October with more than one hundred small fry already enrolled.

Paine Memorial Library, Willsboro

The annual meeting of this library was held August 21.

The library held a book sale of discarded children's and adult books.

Janet Kois, The Puppet Lady, spent one day in August at the Paine Memorial Library. She showed her puppets and gave a demonstration of how to make and use them. During the day, children from first to sixth grade enjoyed the program. Janet also told stories to younger children in the afternoon.

Plans are being made for a story hour to be held at the library from September through June. While children are attending the picture book programs, parents will be able to enjoy a special program planned for them.

The display area has all the information for the American Issues Forum and reference books to go with this display are now on order.

Minerva Library

For the convenience of residents and summer visitors, the Minerva Library began a "swap" program on paperbacks. For every three books in reasonable condition brought in, two exchange paperbacks may be selected from the hundreds stocked by the library.

The library is seeking a long, sturdy table for its reference books. Even an old dining table might suit this purpose and if necessary, can be refinished by volunteers. Anyone having such a table is asked to call Bill Kearney at 998-2115.

Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center

The museum at the Library and Cultural Center is a focal point for visitors. On display are native crafts, including beadwork, baskets, wood carving, leather work and paintings. Mannequins in native dress stand beside a case holding the traditional partridge. Akwesasne means "The land where the partridge drums."

The New York Museum in Albany loaned the Akwesasne Museum some displays. These include remains of an old Indian village, original posts used in log cabins, arrowheads, pieces of pottery, tools made from animal bones and teeth, and wampum belts.

Small articles of traditional crafts are sold as souvenirs.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor