



C-E-F TRAILBLAZER

Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System News

"First Multi-County Library System in New York State"

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THE ADULT INDEPENDENT LEARNER: VARIATION ON A THEME

The concept of the Adult Independent Learner working with libraries is not new. It is an extension of the old tradition of the library being the People's University. It also implies a more aggressive, enlightened and informed approach to lifetime learning processes.

Very little in life is constant. Institutions change; people change. Libraries are adopting a more active role interwoven with the life of the communities they serve. The librarian no longer sits passively within his domain waiting for someone to breach the fortress; instead he reaches out, asks questions, learns his community and its needs and works with them. The library thus becomes a marketplace where ideas and information are the commodities and the patron is the consumer, guided by the librarian's ability to help in the transfer of information.

For years people have used libraries as a resource for learning. In the rapidly changing culture of life today, they are even more heavily used. Changing social and economic patterns impose upon the adult the necessity to bring himself to new levels of self-actualization. So the Adult Independent Learner comes to the library for his needs: to study at his own pace, to work either loosely within the outlines of a project

he has himself devised and to which he is committed, or to work within a more structured plan with the ultimate goal of earning credits toward a degree in his chosen field. Whatever it is he wants, the librarian must be ready to help him.

There is no standardization of approach, since the needs of the learner are diverse. Indeed the first approach may be to help the learner define what it is he wants to learn, assess his level of interest and the time he needs to reach his goal. Identifying his need is paramount, whether it be credits through non-traditional college courses like the Empire State College or the Regents External Degree or mastering a skilled trade. It might be learning the mechanics of owning and operating a small business, how to maintain and repair his car or his house, how to upgrade his performance on the job. All of these are independent learning projects and require an individual approach to each.

The librarian's role is to find out, through careful interviewing, what the learner needs, to guide him to all the library resources in his field and work with him to find his best approach to a sustained learning program. Referral becomes important; thus the librarian must be aware of what opportunities for learning are available in his area. Working with all kinds and types of educational agencies, the librarian then combines all the re-

sources he can muster - and they are many - to help the independent learner along the road to self-fulfillment.

On October 27, at System Headquarters, we are planning an all-day workshop on The Adult Independent Learner and The Public Library. Workshop leaders will be Anne Roman and Annette Kovic of Plattsburgh Public Library, Richard Ward and Mary Leggett of Headquarters. Flyers have been sent out to all librarians and trustees. We would like your reservations in by October 22.

Come prepared to be involved, to discuss, to be a part of this method of putting your library in the mainstream of your community life.

Mary G. Leggett, Editor

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Where do the people in your community turn first when they need information? System Reference Consultant Richard Ward and I have been working on a plan to encourage people to turn first to their public library. Before that can happen, we must review our capability for obtaining interlibrary loans and answering reference questions at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library and our Central Library, Plattsburgh Public Library. Next we must make it possible for you - our member librarians and trustees - to communicate with our reference staff quickly and economically. Then a workshop will be held to review with all librarians the ways reference and interlibrary loan requests can be handled. Lastly, we must advertise to the general public that our libraries and the System are ready to help them obtain answers to their questions. This approach is also part of a national plan which will establish an information network linking up libraries within each state as well as among the fifty states. As a start, I urge librarians and trustees to review the information needs in your community.

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The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System and its member libraries have been invited to join an expansion of free direct access called the Western New York State Reciprocal Borrowing Cooperative. The Nioga, Onondaga, Pioneer and Southern Tier Library Systems, currently the members of the Cooperative, are expanding their direct access program in January, 1976, to include all interested Systems in the State.

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Board of Trustees has voted to canvass the Boards of Trustees of member libraries before proceeding further. Member library boards will soon receive information on the Cooperative and they are requested to reply to the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Board before December 1, 1975. Joining the Cooperative will mean that library patrons in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin area would be able to use the other libraries in the areas served by the Cooperative by showing their library card. It would also mean that patrons of other System libraries could use their library cards in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin area. The Systems would agree to assume responsibility in case of non-return of books. This service could be of great help to a person needing occasional library service while out of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin System area.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director

HEADQUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

Children's Book Week is November 17-23 this year. We will be distributing posters and bookmarks to all member libraries for this event. We will also be sending each library copies of the following Bowker pamphlets: Growing Up With Books; Growing Up With Paperbacks; Growing Up With Science Books.

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Black Poetry Day will be celebrated October 17. This day commemorates the contribution of black poets to American life and culture. The day was established by our own Director, Stanley Ransom, author of America's First Negro Poet, Jupiter Hammon of Long Island.

**1955
OUR 20th YEAR
OF SERVICE
1975**

**LIBRARIANS AND LIBRARIES
OF THE
CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY SYSTEM**



The Champlain Memorial Library.



Ruth Smith, librarian at Champlain, greets visitors with a smile.



Wadhams Free Library.



Wadhams trustees and librarian left to right:
Ruth Peters, Norma Bertsch, Librarian Heidi
Vaughan, Ethlyn Sayre, Katharine Reidemeister.



Keeseville Free Library.



Ann Garcia, Librarian, and Elaine Rushford,
at the Keeseville Library.

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Carol Bedore of System Technical Services attended a workshop at Syracuse University on Sharpening your Supervision Skills. Dr. Joyce De Haan, Senior Partner of the Center for Organization Development, talked about understanding and applying the motivation process. She stressed assessing the needs of each library or information center and using motivation theories to solve particular problems. She also discussed self-evaluation of one's own personal style of supervision.

In the afternoon session, participants divided into smaller groups to role-play hypothetical situations and to discuss the application of theories of motivation to change or improve each situation. Other workshops are planned for the future at the Syracuse School of Information Studies.

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Flexibility is a big plus in bookmobile service. When King's Trailer Court, an old bookmobile stop of many years' standing, closed, we were able to use that time to establish a new stop at the South Acres Mobile Home Park. Already the circulation has jumped from 39 to 88 in the first two stops.

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Over 286 children from six grades at the Willsboro School came on board the bookmobile which was parked near the Paine Memorial Library in Willsboro on September 19. Mrs. Janice Allen, librarian at Paine, and Mrs. Janet Tucker of the library staff were on hand to help Madge Mehan, bookmobile librarian, and Bob Harnden, driver, demonstrate the bookmobile to the children. Ten groups of children visited the bookmobile between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., asking many enthusiastic questions and looking over the stock of books. Many children recalled visiting the bookmobile at the Essex County Fair this summer.

Rose Waddell, System Children's Consultant, and Candy Cross, Children's Librarian at Plattsburgh Public Library, attended a meeting of the Champlain Valley Reading Council on September 27.

Dr. Nancy Larrick, noted educator, author, and authority on children's literature, was the featured speaker. Dr. Larrick urged sharing poetry with children, poetry to which they can relate in meaning, in mood, in form and in tempo. Dr. Larrick's latest book is Piping Down the Valleys Wild: Poetry for the Young of All Ages.

TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

Mrs. Ruth Hecht, long a trustee of Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library, is running for office as alderman in the City of Plattsburgh. We wish her well in her campaign and hope more people will emulate her spirit of civic consciousness.

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Mr. Edward Hoit, Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library trustee, is also treasurer and enthusiastic worker for the Franklin County Historical Society. He is loaning materials from the Museum for a display of the work of 18th and 19th century artisans at the Pyramid Mall, Plattsburgh, November 17-22. Materials loaned include flax in its various stages of preparation before spinning, washed wool, and broom corn, from the stalk to the finished hearth broom.

Mrs. Hoit is head of the craft program at the Museum in which fourth grade children learn old-time skills. The craft education program runs on Tuesdays and Fridays for seven weeks. The children are first given a tour of the Historical Society Museum, then given an opportunity to choose from one of several crafts taught there. These include candle making, chair caning, weaving, spinning wool and flax, broom making, and making old-fashioned cookies. As a special Bicentennial project, each child is given a chart with instructions on how to trace their genealogy. Mrs. Hoit works with Mrs. Rosemary Luhr, School Coordinator for both the BOCES Board and the Franklin Academy Board.

Mr. Hoit also teaches chair caning at the North Country Community College. He designed and made the machine that is used for making hearth brooms in the craft projects at the Museum. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hoit urge anyone interested in North Country history to visit the Museum at 51 Milwaukee Street, Malone. Call 483-2750 for an appointment.

LAKE PLACID FINE ARTS LIBRARY

Congratulations to the Lake Placid Center for Music, Drama and the Arts for constructing the North Country's newest library, the Fine Arts Library. According to Mr. Daniel Patchett, Director of the Center, Ms. Courtney Ann Shaw has been appointed Head Librarian. Ms. Shaw received her B.F.A. from the University of Wisconsin, her M.L.S. from Case Western Reserve Library School and her Master of Art History degree from the University of Arizona. She was active in library organizations in Arizona and was Secretary of the Arizona Chapter of the International Association of Art Reference Librarians.

Her assistant, Ms. Laurie Averill, obtained her B.F.A. from Mount Holyoke and her M.L.S. from Simmons Library School. Ms. Averill is also an artist, sculpting in stone.

The move into the new library building is scheduled for November 15. The Fine Arts Library will specialize in all aspects of the fine arts, supporting the curriculum and research needs of the Lake Placid School of Art. We welcome this artistic and intellectual stimulus to the North Country and are looking forward to cooperating with them.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director

BICENTENNIAL BOOKLET READY FOR NOVEMBER

The Town of Plattsburgh Bicentennial Committee has compiled a booklet covering the history of that area for the years 1785-1976. Approximately 70 pages long, the booklet will include material on the religious, educational, transportational, economic development of the Township, as

well as the cultural, military and industrial aspects of the area which includes Cumberland Head. Photographs dating from the late 1800's through the early 1900's will illustrate the booklet, along with maps of Town boundaries in 1788 and 1975 and maps of military installations during both the Revolution and the War of 1812.

The booklet will be on sale at a display in Pyramid Mall, Plattsburgh, from November 17-22. After that date, copies can be ordered from Town Historian Mary Fogarty, 12 Oswego Lane, Plattsburgh, New York 12901. The price is \$1.25 including tax.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The NYLA Conference will be held November 19-22 this year at the Americana Hotel in New York City. Three themes inspire this year's conference: historical roots (heritage), a day of celebration (librarians and the arts) and a day of broadening horizons (outreach). These three themes will be represented by various activities throughout the week.

We urge member librarians to attend this conference. Information is available at Headquarters.

NORTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Just a reminder - don't forget the NALA workshop on mending and conservation scheduled for October 18 at the Comprehensive Education Center, The Campus School, Rugar Street, Plattsburgh! Flyers have been sent out for this meeting. We expect a good turnout, so get your reservations in early.

NEEDED: VOICES FROM SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Helen Spencer, Director of the Valley Cottage Free Library, asks for help from other directors of small public libraries serving a population under 10,000.

Ms. Spencer felt that small libraries have been ignored in conference planning and since these libraries are the backbone of service in New York State, there should be some recognition at convention.

Accordingly, she has been assigned to prepare a program on this subject for Friday, November 21, at 8:30 a.m. at NYLA.

Please send your ideas, suggestions, etc. to Helen Spencer, Director, Valley Cottage Library, Valley Cottage, New York 10989. Tel: (914) 268-7700. If anyone would be willing to work on this project, step forward and be counted. The response will determine the focus: one that shows what small public libraries are doing and what the potential is; or a panel and discussion of problems and ways of coping.

Directors of Small Public Libraries - please respond!

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

Mrs. Daniel Manning, President of the Board of this library, reports that \$326 was realized at the book sale held in the library on October 4. Two beautiful elephant folios illustrated by Dore were purchased by staff from the new Fine Arts Library at Lake Placid. Most of the items were from the estate of the late Henry Rogers, long a trustee of the library.

CHAZY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library held a Bicentennial Tea celebration at the Alice T. Miner Colonial Collection in Chazy on October 5. Mrs. Lucille Czarnetzky, curator, led guided tours through the museum. Some of the items on display were letters written by Washington, Lafayette, and William Penn, a loom made in 1700 and a sugar loaf cutter belonging to Andrew Jackson. The tea, which was held for the benefit of the library, was held in the third floor ballroom of the museum, a floor entirely devoted to displaying china and glassware.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Association held its annual

meeting in early September. Reports were given by the chairperson of each committee and by the librarian, Zaidee Trumbull.

KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

The library has received a beautiful framed newsprint article and picture of Keeseville's Arch Bridge, donated by Mrs. Isabelle Maders. It is the front page of Ballou's Pictorial of Boston, Massachusetts, dated July 17, 1858. The author of the article describes the AuSable River, the Arch Bridge, and the Adirondacks in the long-forgotten "flowery" style calculated to bring tears to one's eyes. The library is most appreciative of this gift.

Two paintings by local artist Emmet Pine of Keeseville are also on display. One shows the St. John the Baptist Church in Keeseville; the other shows skaters at the village skating rink.

The library had a very successful fund drive this year despite the unsettled economy. It seems that the people of Keeseville and the surrounding area are very generous toward their library.

MINERVA LIBRARY

The Minerva Library building was painted this past summer in a medium blue color. Boys from the summer Neighborhood Youth Program did the job.

The Minerva Men's Civic League, which sponsors the library, is planning a pancake supper for November 8. Proceeds will go to support the library.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Twenty advertising fans from the collection of Karen St. Louis, Morrisonville, New York, are now on display at Plattsburgh Public Library.

Colorful fans advertising the Singer Sewing Machine Company, the Hotel Knickerbocker in New York City and a Japanese airline are included in the exhibit. Most of the collection dates from the turn of the century. One, however, is dated 1972 and is a play bill for the Huntington

Hartford Theatre.

Ms. St. Louis began her collection 22 years ago when she received her first fan as a gift. She now owns 132 feather, lace, oriental and advertising fans.

Ms. St. Louis has also exhibited at the Clinton Community College History Day.

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"Reflections 72", an impressionistic oil painting, by Sarah Matasovsky has been accepted for the NYLA Art Show in November.

Ms. Matasovsky, Administrative Assistant at Plattsburgh Public Library, attended St. Joseph's School of Practical and Fine Arts in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She has previously exhibited watercolors and pencil sketches in Pittsburgh.

Although her main interest is now in oils, she has also produced some works in acrylic and charcoal since coming to Plattsburgh.

WADHAMS FREE LIBRARY

The library had a highly successful Rummage and Food Sale which brought in several hundred dollars. This is an annual event which is looked forward to

by the workers and the general public alike.

Plans are now being made for the development of a children's book area in the back addition of the library. This new space will allow for a "special" place for children to find and read their books and will provide a better environment for a Story Hour which is planned for the near future.

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TUPPER LAKE

A dinner honoring Mrs. Kenneth Dening was held on October 5. Mrs. Dening, who retired recently, was the director of this library and provided outstanding service to her community.

Two new exhibits greet visitors to the library. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Young loaned the library a portion of their collection of historic glass and German steins. On display are a variety of historic flasks, a demi-john, several small pieces of glassware, and a variety of steins, varying in age and design. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bristol of Saranac Lake have donated to the library several examples of petrified wood and fossils which include petrified dinosaur bones and trilobites.

The downtown branch library has a new face. The atmosphere has been lightened with a fresh coat of paint and a bright new multicolored carpet.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME, ETC....

An amusing article in the October, 1975, edition of Consumer Reports has come to our attention:

"...Nancy L. Halbert, indefatigable heraldic researcher of Bath, Ohio, has been looking up family trees for a veritable forest of CU readers. Mrs. Halbert vends by mail "exclusive and particularly beautiful" family coats of arms. A spinoff of her research, it appears, has been the emergence of noble surnames hitherto unknown even to medieval scholars.

Inevitably, though, there are the doubters. "As far as we know, the Usafret family does not predate the formation of the United States Air Force in 1947", the wife of a retired major wrote to us. The Usarets (U.S. Army Retired) and the Usnrets (U.S. Navy Retired) are of somewhat older stock, we learn, dating roughly from the time of the Revolution.

And the scoffers. "When my wife was attending to her father's estate, we received a letter with a similar offer addressed to Violet L. Executrix," wrote a New York man. "She's been 'Trixie' ever since."

But there are also those who value mementos of distinguished lineage. When Ms. Halbert's offer of a \$19.95 plaque was sent to B.K. Hall at the Gale Research Company in Detroit, it was promptly accepted. And today the Hall coat of arms hangs on display in an appropriate place within the company's offices. The place is appropriate because the people at Gale Research know that "bk hall" is a code name used in subscribing to magazines that are to be filed in the back hall, on the seventh floor opposite the wash room."

Consumer Reports, October, 1975

Note: Since a lot of my mail comes addressed to "Occupant", a name that is legion in the United States, do you suppose there is a coat of arms for that too?

Mary G. Leggett