



C-E-F TRAILBLAZER

Clinton-Essex-Franklin

Library System News

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

STANLEY A. RANSOM
Director

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Christmas 1978

"The time has come," the walrus said,
His dictum we'll obey-
And send you all best wishes
From the Staff for Christmas Day.

May Santa bring you perfect patrons-
Books returned intact, on time,
No questions tossed at you, unwary,
Without a reason or a rhyme.
May all your circulation problems
Resolve themselves - and in your stacks
Let all your books be lined up neatly,
An orderly array of facts.
No budget errors to torment you.
Board meetings run as smooth as cream,
Good books, pleased patrons, all surround you,
Of such stuff is our Christmas dream.

That's our wish for all of you-
And who's to say it can't come true?

Mary Gordon Leggett



This is the time of year also to say thank you to all those on the library staff who contribute so much to The Trailblazer: to Stan Ransom who encourages my articles and my jingles, who is available for consultation and who always has his Director's Report ready on time. To Debbie Dashnaw, peerless typist, who not only does a magnificent job of typing and proofreading with me but also runs the completed job off on the multilith. To Lillian Hong and Marilyn Blanchard who patiently type the hundreds of addresses on The Trailblazer mailing list. To Carol Bedore who offers many ideas and always applauds my efforts. To the rest of the staff who provide comments, inspiration and a dash of levity. Without all of them, no Trailblazer would ever reach you.

Mary Gordon Leggett

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The staff and I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and to send you greetings for the Holiday Season. It will be an especially happy one for libraries in New York State, thanks to the recent passage of library legislation.

We are looking forward to 1979, our 25th year of service to the people of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties. It promises to be an exciting year. We will be well into the conversion of our Union Catalog to COM Cat and the initial distribution of microfilm copies of the catalog. We will be entering into interloan arrangements with other libraries using our OCLC terminals. We should be inaugurating an improved vehicle delivery system.

We should also be more involved in public relations and publicity for our member libraries and our library system. We plan to hold two workshops for member libraries - one on grantsmanship and one on library management. We also expect the addition of at least one new member library, making 28.

Please send me your suggestions for improving our services, topics for future workshops or other suggestions. The staff, the Board of Trustees and I will give careful consideration to each suggestion and incorporate them into our plans as much as possible.

May I hear from you before January 15th?

Happy Holidays
Stanley A. Ransom

LIBRARY LEGISLATION PASSES

The 3.7 million dollar legislation for libraries was passed unanimously during the late hours of the Special Legislative Session on December 7th. On hand to guide the legislation through were hardworking Pat Mautino, NYLA Legislative Committee Chairperson, and our adroit and persistent NYLA

Executive Director, Dadie Perlov.

We thank Governor Hugh Carey, Senator Warren Anderson and Assembly Speaker Stanley Steingut for their support of this legislation. We thank Assemblyman Edward Sullivan for his sponsorship, his leadership and his untiring efforts on behalf of the bill.

We thank Senator Hugh Farley and James Donovan for their support and sponsorship. Thanks to our own Senator Ronald Stafford and Assemblyman Andrew Ryan for their encouragement and support.

Thanks to all New York Library Association Legislative Committee members and to all NYLA officers and members who wrote countless letters, sent telegrams, made telephone calls and actually came to visit legislators in Albany.

Special thanks goes to the Civil Service Employees Association. I am particularly pleased at the fine support of the CSEA leadership, who are aware of the importance of libraries and who are pushing for good public service across New York State. Our sincere thanks to Joe McDermott, President, Albany Region IV, CSEA; and to

Bernard Ryan, CSEA Legislative Director. Thanks for strong and timely support from James Featherstonhaugh, CSEA's Attorney and Chief Lobbyist; and to Jean Myers, Chairperson of the Political Action Committee of CSEA Albany Region IV. We also wish to recognize the hard work of Mary Leggett and Carol Bedore, both active members of this Political Action Committee and staff members of C-E-F Library System.

We thank all librarians, trustees and staff who sent letters and telegrams. Your work was very much appreciated.

Passage of this bill was due to all of the above working hand in hand. Let us continue to work together to improve the quality and quantity of our library service.

Stanley A. Ransom

CSEA - WE LOVE YOU

Our 3.7 million dollar library bill was passed in the special session of the State Legislature called by Governor Carey on December 7, 1978. The bill was placed on the agenda and support secured for it by the concerted efforts of a number of people in the Civil Service Employees Association. As a union, CSEA has always had a special interest in libraries as a great resource for the people in the State of New York. And as a union, CSEA has traditionally supported legislation to increase funding for good library service.

We want to express our thanks to Joseph McDermott, President of CSEA Albany Region IV; Bernie Ryan, CSEA Director of Legislation and Political Action; James Featherstonhaugh, CSEA Attorney and Chief Lobbyist; Howard Cropsey, President of Albany County CSEA and member of the Statewide Board of Directors; Mary Jarocki, President of SUNY Albany CSEA and past Treasurer of Albany Region IV; Jean Myers, Chair-

person of Albany IV Political Action Committee; Richard Evans, Ernie Stroebel and Joan Tobin of the CSEA Albany IV Political Action Committee and Marty Langer of the Statewide CSEA Political Action Committee. There are many, many more who helped---our thanks to all of them. We appreciate the telephone calls and visits to the Governor's office, to State Legislators, and to us to keep us informed of the bill's progress. We won't forget the people who stayed at the Special Session until the wee small hours of the morning. CSEA did a superlative job in securing passage of library legislation.

It is warming to see both union and library management working together toward a common goal: the support of libraries and the cultural enrichment of the people of the State of New York. Recognition of what constitutes good public service is the hallmark of a great union. CSEA in its work for public libraries has proved itself such a union.

Mary Gordon Leggett

KEESEVILLE LIBRARY RECEIVES CSEA CHECK

Harry Arthur, President of the Essex County CSEA Chapter; Carol Bedore, President of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library CSEA Unit; and Mary Leggett, Treasurer of the library unit presented a check for one hundred dollars to Ann Garcia, librarian at the Keeseville Free Library, and Isabelle Maders, library trustee. The check was sent by Joseph McDermott, President of CSEA Albany Region IV, in response to the recent disaster at this small Essex County library which had been badly

damaged by a fire and accompanying vandalism last spring.

"Small public libraries are important links in the chain of knowledge across the State," said President McDermott, "and CSEA is happy to be able to help the Keeseville Library carry on its excellent service to the people in its area."

The Keeseville Library is one of the 27 member libraries in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System.

HEADQUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

Flextime is here! Director Stanley Ransom and the C-E-F Board of Trustees instituted a three month trial period of flextime at Headquarters.

Built around a core period of time from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., flextime allows employees, at the discretion of their supervisors, to work their 7½ hours around this core time. The employee could start at 7:30 a.m. and work 7½ hours or perhaps 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or variations on this schedule. Flextime must be scheduled for a week at a time.

At the end of February, Mr. Ransom and the supervisory staff will evaluate flextime and its effect on productivity and morale. Should everything work out

as we anticipate, then the Board and Director will move to make flextime permanent.

Flextime is an idea whose time has come. It is working in business, industries, as well as libraries.

And if you want to call either Technical Services Department or the Adult Services Department at the early hour of 7:30 a.m., you'll find Carol Bedore and Mary Leggett at the library to answer the telephone.

(Editor's note: I never thought the day would come when I'd voluntarily be at the Y to swim at 6:00 a.m. and at work at 7:30---but it has!)

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Our new Com-Key telephone system has just been installed at Headquarters. It ties us in with Plattsburgh Public Library so we can switch calls back and forth - something we could not do before. There are now 2 intercom paths and speakers as well on each phone. We must admit that a disembodied voice telling one that one is wanted on line 91 is a bit unnerving. We also find ourselves

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saying thank you into thin air over and over again. Director Stan Ransom's telephone is also fitted for conference calls - a boon in winter weather when it is difficult to get a board quorum assembled. Anyway the new telephone system is here. It's new. It's efficient. And it saves us about \$40.00 a month.

The Annual Reports have come in from the State Library and will soon be forwarded to each member librarian. If

you have any questions, please call Carol Bedore or Hugh Starke at Headquarters.

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We'll be sending each member library a copy of Chases' Calendar of Annual Events for 1979 - our New Year's gift to you. Look it over. It will provide plenty of occasions for you to

celebrate in your library from National Nothing Day in January to National Aardvark Week in March to Ding-a-Ling Day in December ... with plenty of exotica in between from which to choose.

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Rose Waddell, System Children's Consultant, and Anne Romans, Children's Librarian at Plattsburgh Public Library, attended the 3rd School-Public Library Conference, December 6 - 8, at the Sheraton Inn in Syracuse. Having a commonality of clients, librarians and representatives of community agencies working with children and young adults met in sessions covering many topics of interest to all. Among them were The Rights of Youth to Know, Community In-

formation Referral Centers, The Library and the Gifted Child, The Library and the Deaf Child. Speakers for the first general session were Dr. Joan Fassler of the Child Study Center at Yale University and Dr. Adele Hofmann from the Adolescent Medicine Unit at New York University Medical Center. The speaker at the second session was Dr. Sol Gordon from the Syracuse University Institute for Family Research and Education.

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Director Stanley Ransom and Consultants Rose Waddell, Dick Ward and Mary Leggett met with Town Supervisor Frank Drown at Ellenburg Center on December 11 to check over a remodeled area in the Town Hall that can be made into a library. The 30 x 45 foot basement room has a newly poured concrete floor and the Town is in the process of painting walls and floor. Recessed ceiling lights have been installed. Mr. Drown has asked if any library that

has unneeded furniture (tables and chairs, a card catalog, bookcases, etc.) and is willing to donate, would they please contact Mr. Ransom at Headquarters.

Later in the day, Mr. Ransom and the three consultants met with Mrs. McGregor and Mrs. Hebert at the Ellenburg Depot Library to look over the remodeling project going on at that library.

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We are losing Lillian Hong of the Technical Services Department at the end of December. She and her two children are joining her husband, Ted, to live in Pennsylvania where he teaches at Clarion State College. Lillian is a perfectionist at her work, always willing and agreeable, and a joy to have

around. Since neither pleas nor threats to tie her to her desk have been of any avail, we'll wish her farewell and good luck in her new life. Although Lillian has her degree in Sociology, she is talking of going to library school. Who knows - maybe we'll see her at conferences.

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We also welcome new faces at Headquarters: Lorrie Fowler and Mar-

garet Zsido who are putting our Union Catalog into the OCLC computer. This

is a project which will help in inter-library loan and in the production of our Com Catalog.

Gloria Breyette is the new typist in Technical Services.

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Lee Salzman spoke to the nursing class at SUNY Plattsburgh on November 10. On November 20, she represented the JIC at a program at Clinton Correctional Facility conducted by the Inmate College Advisory Group. Lee talked about the Center's services and

plans to go to another meeting in December. On November 29, Linda Fish represented the JIC at Clinton Community College's Career Information Forum.

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'Tis the month before Christmas, and C-E-F's Reference Department is as busy as ever! While you might expect us to be inundated with "how-to" requests from patrons making Christmas gifts, we find instead that the current deluge of requests is from high school students writing term papers.

est number of title/author requests this month is for current and recent best sellers, with the requests for fiction outnumbering those for non-fiction. Some of the most popular titles are Evergreen, Bloodlines, The Glass Flame, Mommie Dearest and American Caesar. If you're waiting to read one of these titles, rest assured that you're not alone!

What this says about the number of homemade gifts this year, we can't be sure, but we can be sure that there are some pretty interesting papers being written. Topics range from "alchemy" to "test-tube babies" and include such others as "noise pollution," "epilepsy" and "The Smithsonian Institute."

With the coming of the new year, we in the Reference Department look forward to giving you our continued best service. Keep those yellow and white slips coming!

Candy La Chat

As is usually the case, the great-

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE - A PASTICHE

November 3 - 6, 1978! Off to the Conference in New York City - eight of us! Trustees Peg Byrne and Keela Rogers and staff members Rose Waddell, Carol Bedore, Lee Salzman, John Crager, Dick Ward and Mary Leggett. We were missing Director Stan Ransom who was in Plattsburgh since his wife was in the hospital. (She's better, and at home, her friends will be pleased to know).

Off we went in different directions, to different meetings - meeting briefly in halls, at hurried lunches

and early breakfasts.

Rose Waddell covered most of the Children's Services meetings and sandwiched in others as time allowed. One of her favorites was listening to General Walters talk about the human factor in history. Rose was given an original sketch by author-illustrator Steven Kellogg.

Lee Salzman and John Crager went to the Grantsmanship Institute. John also went to a session on vehicle use in library service and a lively and controversial session called Close Encounters with Sex and Violence, and

the YA Consultants' Meetings. Lee went to a meeting on video services in libraries, another on job information centers, and several sessions on films and filmmakers.

Dick Ward met with reference librarians on interlibrary loan problems and attended a session on upgrading services to prisons and local jails.

Carol Bedore spent one full day at an OCLC workshop where discussion focused on OCLC and its future role in interlibrary loan.

Your editor met Carol at a meeting on Collective Bargaining and Unionization in Libraries - one of the liveliest sessions in the entire Conference. I saw Lee Salzman and Carol again at the meeting "Why Aren't the Irish Ethnic" on Saturday and sat with Rose Waddell and Peg Byrne at "All Join Hands", a penetrating look at the library and the community.

Your editor also served as stand-

in for Stan Ransom and sold T-shirts bearing the slogan "I love N.Y. Libraries" at the Legislative Booth on Saturday.

My feet ached as I ran back and forth to meetings of the Public Library Section Board. Outgoing President Ray Smith chaired the Annual Business Meeting. I met my new fellow officers on the Board: President Mary Bobinski, Vice President Norman Seldes, Secretary Florence Harshe. Outgoing Treasurer Jeanne Cianciulli was kind enough to spend some time with me explaining my new duties as Treasurer of the Board. I am really looking forward to working with them this coming year.

NYLA is always a mixture of meeting old friends and new ones, of rushing from meeting to meeting, of visits to the exhibits and brief stops for dinners. It was a good Conference this year; it showed the intensive planning that went into it. We'll look forward to next year at Syracuse.

Mary Gordon Leggett

NORTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of NALA will be held on January 25, 1979 at the Plattsburgh Senior High School at 7:30 p.m. The controversial American Library Asso-

ciation film, The Speaker, will be shown. There will also be a tour of the school library media center. Both current and prospective members are urged to attend this meeting.

TAX REGULATIONS AND LIBRARIES

1. Public libraries

a. Tax Exemption on Purchases

Libraries which are public libraries are agencies of political subdivisions and are not subject to state sales tax by vendors under Section 1116 (a)(1) of the Sales and Use Tax. They must inform vendors they are exempt under this section of the law. Public libraries do not need a sales tax number. They generally should use a simple purchase order number and a claim form. A purchase order number can be instituted by numbering of orders sent out, or even by setting up a code based upon the date (e.g. No. 78-12-10).

b. Sales Tax

Public libraries, and Friends Groups connected with these libraries, must collect sales taxes for the sale of used books, stationery, or other items to benefit the library, whether the sale is on a once a year or on an ongoing basis.

Ask the local Sales Tax office for a sales tax registration kit, which contains all instructions and a 3 part form, one part of which will be signed and returned for the required display. The Sales Tax Office will then automatically mail out sales tax return forms quarterly. Sales tax forms are mailed out the last day of February, May, August and November, with tax due within the next 20 days.

2. Free Association Libraries

a. Tax Exemption on Purchases

Free Association libraries, as well as library associations, are exempt from payment of state sales taxes under Section 1116 (a)(4) of the Sales and Use Tax Law. They are required, however, to obtain a Tax Exemption Number to give to vendors.

Please ask your local Sales Tax office for Form ST119.2 (Application for an Exempt Organization Certificate) and Form ST119.3 (Instructions for completing the Application). Upon approval, you will receive your Sales Tax Exemption Certificate (Form 119), which is an acknowledgement for you to keep, and copies of Form 119.1, an exemption document to be sent to vendors. On this form you must fill in your tax exemption number and the date on which you are purchasing the item. A common mistake is to enter the date of your exemption rather than the date of your purchase. You may photocopy the form and enter the date of purchase as necessary.

b. Filing for the Tax Exemption

If an association library or a library association has received a Federal Tax Exemption status as an educational association under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, you may send a copy of their letter to the Sales Tax Office, which accepts the Federal designation in lieu of the documentation to support their application for Sales Tax Exemption.

One problem often confronting free association libraries relates to the question asking if the library or association is "incorporated". A library is incorporated if it has received a charter from the Regents, or in earlier times from the Secretary of State or the State Legislature. The Sales Tax Office needs to see a charter, or application for the charter, showing the purpose for which the library or association was formed. They would like to have a copy of the charter (yes, the one framed and on the wall!).

Part of the application requests financial information. The instructions (ST119.3) include sample financial statements.

c. Sales Tax

Free Association libraries and library associations registered as non-profit associations under section 1116(a)(4) of the State Tax Law are exempt from collecting sales taxes on books or other items sold for their benefit, as long as they do not operate with a degree of continuity or regularity or by operating a shop or store. In short, continuing book sales require state sales tax to be collected; book sales held once or perhaps twice a year are exempt.

If a free association library wishes to hold continuing book sales, they should request the Sales Tax Registration kit mentioned above.

3. Friends Groups

The status of Friends of the Library groups is determined by the status of the library with which they are connected, and provided that the library has received its tax exempt status or number.

4. Sales Tax Information:

- a. Plattsburgh: Sales Tax Office
3 LaBarre Street
Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901
Tel.: 518-563-6633
- b. Albany: For further information, contact the Instructions and Interpretations Department, Exempt Organizations Section, Sales Tax Bureau, The State Campus, Albany, N.Y. Tel.: 518-457-2782

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

MINIMUM WAGES

According to Mr. Joseph Tobias, New York State Division of Labor, all association libraries are subject to the State minimum wage. Please note the following wage schedule:

October 6, 1978	\$2.65 per hour
January 1, 1979	\$2.90 per hour
January 1, 1980	\$3.10 per hour
January 1, 1981	\$3.35 per hour

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

Four librarians from Akwesasne attended the New York Library Association Conference: Margaret Jacobs, Beatrice Cole, Corinne White and Carol White.

Margaret is a member of the Native American Library Services Committee and was the leader in the discussion group on American Indians in the NYLA program.

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Beatrice Cole and Margaret Jacobs went to Denver in late October to the Pre-White House Conference on Indian Libraries. They report that most of the Indian Nations were represented at the Conference and add that New York State is far ahead of the others in library service.

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Gail Cook has left the library to work at the Farmers Bank in Massena.

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

The library received a \$10,000 bequest this fall from the estate of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Belong -- a fine legacy to the Town of AuSable Forks.

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Helen Douglass is chairman of a fund drive for the library. She has singlehandedly sent out letters to residents of Jay and Black Brook and to summer residents at Fern Lake and Silver Lake asking for their help to the library. No money was received from the School District this year - a fact that sorely affects the library budget.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY

The Board of Trustees matched the

\$600.00 given to the library by Keene Central School. This enabled the library to expand its winter hours by five hours per week. The new hours are Tuesday and Thursday: 10 - 12 in the morning; 2 - 5 in the afternoon and 7 - 9 at night. Saturday hours are 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

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Peg Byrne of the Board of Trustees edited the lectures given at the library's Bicentennial Celebration. A copy of the manuscript is available at the library for circulation.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

The library held the first in its fall and winter series of children's film series on October 28, drawing 50 viewers. The second was on November 25 and was very well received.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library held a Christmas story hour on December 16. Edie Morlock of the Friends group arranged the program.

PERU FREE LIBRARY

Jane Metcalfe, the librarian, tells us of a display of antique toys at the library. The exhibit, loaned by Mrs. William Ston and Mr. and Mrs. Dagley features games, trains, dolls, toy furniture, etc.

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The library has started service to residents of the Vale Haven Retirement Home in Peru - an excellent outreach program.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

The library is now offering a copying service with a coin-operated copying machine. The machine will reproduce photographs and halftones and will print on many types of paper, including colored stock, preprinted stock, transparencies and adhesive-backed labels. The service is available from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday on a trial basis at 15 cents a copy.

SCHROON LAKE LIBRARY

Officers were elected at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the library. They are Charlotte Rowe, President; Beverly Burger, Vice President; and Marcia McCoy, Treasurer.

The library is taking steps toward obtaining its State charter. Stanley Ransom, C-E-F Director, and Roland Dickson of the State Library, met with trustees on December 12.

WELLS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UPPER JAY

Lucy Ritchie is working as a volunteer at this library.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor