You, dear readers, are probably wondering what I'm up to this time. What could possibly be the connection between Melvil Dewey, the American librarian who devised the Dewey Decimal System of classifying books, and Sonja Henie, the pert blond Norwegian skater who became a Hollywood movie star during the thirties and forties?

The link between them was Lake Placid, New York. Melvil Dewey established the Lake Placid Club in 1895. In a rather convoluted way the Club encouraged the growth of winter sports in the area and hence led to the choice of Lake Placid as the site of the 1932 Olympics. Sonja Henie (who developed her own special style by incorporating her early ballet training into the relatively new sport of figure skating) won a gold medal at the '32 Olympics and soon became one of America's darlings.

So, my tale is really about Melvil Dewey and Lake Placid as an Olympic village. There are many twists and turns in my tale and a few digressions here and there, but please bear with me; it's all going to fall together eventually.

I'll have to outline Melvil Dewey's career briefly for those unfamiliar with this pioneer in library science. He developed his Decimal System while still an undergraduate at Amherst College. He was a co-founder and first editor of Library Journal and also a founder of the American Library Association. He founded the library school at Columbia (the first institution for the instruction of librarians in the U.S.) and, later, the State Library School in Albany. He was director of the New York State Library and Secretary to the Board of Regents.

He also seems to have been a little peculiar. Even in his boyhood he was a very serious fellow; he once walked eleven miles from his home in Adams Center, New York to Watertown, clutching his little bag of hard-earned pennies and nickels in order to purchase his heart's desire, a Webster's unabridged dictionary. He was a great believer in efficiency, yet when a delegate from the Efficiency Society (during World War I) called on him at his messy office he couldn't receive his visitor until he'd done a quick clean-up by dumping all his papers into clothes...
baskets and hiding them. He always insisted that his subordinates carry memo pads of a certain size, yet at important meetings he would draw an envelope out of his pocket and write on its back.

Dewey's best known idiosyncrasy, however, was his writing in "breves" or abbreviations. He was engaged in a crusade to simplify the English language (one of his financial supporters was Andrew Carnegie). Here's an example:

"Thanks for the copi of yur bibliografi. I didn't realty I was gilti of spoilng so much good whyt paper."

Actually, his own first name was originally spelled Melville, and he even toyed with the idea of shortening Dewey to Dui.

To get back to Lake Placid, Dewey first went there during the summer months to escape his hay fever problems (one of his contemporaries quipped that the Club was "sired by a sneeze"). He started out with one ramshackle building in 1895 and built it into one of the world's largest residential clubs, a huge complex of buildings (including farms to produce the Club's food) before his death.

In 1905 came a momentous decision: Dewey decided to make the Club a year-round concern. He imported skis and other winter sports equipment to provide wholesome winter recreation (he was both anti-smoking and anti-drink). His critics scoffed, saying that nobody would brave the cold Adirondack winters, but Dewey had the last laugh—Lake Placid gradually became the winter playground of the rich and famous. On a darker note, however, it should be added that Dewey was forced to resign from his position as State Librarian in 1905, partially as a result of a controversy over the Club's then discriminatory membership policy.

Melvil Dewey was only one influence on the Lake Placid winter sports scene. The early part of the 1900's was the Golden Age of speed skating in Lake Placid and many important competitions in that sport were held there. A local boy, Charles Jewtraw, won the gold medal for the 500-meter race at Chamonix in the French Alps (which later was officially designated as the first of the Olympic Winter Games, making Jewtraw the very first Olympic gold medalist of the Winter Games) in 1924. Another native son, Jack Shea, won the first gold medal for the 500-meter race of the third Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid (and a second later on for the 1500-meter race).

There is yet another Dewey connection—Dr. Godfrey Dewey, Melvil's son, campaigned vigorously to bring the Olympics to Lake Placid in 1932.

Of course, the Olympic tradition went on in Placid. The village hosted the 1980 Winter Olympics. Several athletes from the North Country competed in Sarajevo recently. The Olympic facilities are still used for other competitions and for training purposes. Also, there is a movement to bring the Olympics back to Placid by the year 2000.

One final note on Melvil Dewey. He died in Lake Placid, Florida (he started going to Florida in the winter because of bronchitis in his old age, opening a branch of the Club at what had formerly been Lake Stearns) on December 26 in 1931. The New York Times began his obituary with the epitaph 025.4 D51.

Mary Shaw Hopkins
Editor
Legislation is a most important interest right now, in addition to giving good library service. It is a critical year for C-E-F and for other library systems dependent upon State aid.

We applaud Governor Cuomo for earmarking 8 million dollars in his Executive Budget this year, a pledge of support for public libraries. We commend Senator Hugh Farley for his Senate Bill 7674 which would provide 18 million dollars for libraries and for public library construction. We commend Assemblyman Edward C. Sullivan for his amended version of Assembly Bill 3100 for 15.24 million dollars, which would include $300,000 to help public library systems to provide better library services to inmates of correctional facilities.

We would very much like to see the minimum support for operating public library systems raised from $500,000 to $550,000, which would aid the C-E-F, Chautauqua-Cattaraugus, Mohawk Valley and Nioga Library Systems.

We believe that Central Library minimum support should be increased from $75,000 to $100,000, which would be of great importance to our Plattsburgh Public Library, Olean and Pren- dergast Public Libraries, Comming and Steele Public Libraries, Tompkins County Public Library, Niagara Falls Public Library, Crandall Library in Glens Falls and Schenectady Public Library. Total cost for increasing System and Central Library Systems is $332,000.

We also need the $300,000 correctional library amendment which provides public library systems with $10 per inmate for library services from the systems. In the C-E-F area we serve six State correctional facilities with an inmate population of over 3,500, soon to grow to over 4,000 inmates. We need to provide consultant services, film services and rotating collections of books in Spanish, sorely lacking in our regular collections.

Our Job and Education Information Center, which also offers job search and resume writing workshops for pre-release inmates, would be helped most by the passage of S4495 (Senator Goodman) and A5066B (Assemblyman Pillittere). This bill would provide $400,000 for basic funding for the Education Information Centers in New York State. Last year our Center assisted over 3,400 persons who were unemployed or who were seeking critical career information.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

WILMINGTON: 29th MEMBER LIBRARY

At the February 16th meeting of the C-E-F Board of Trustees the formal application by the Library Board of the Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library for membership in C-E-F was unanimously approved. The Wilmington Board had earlier received their Provisional Charter from the Board of Regents and are now awaiting approval of registration. The C-E-F Board approved their membership application pending the approval of registration. The Wilmington Library
thus becomes the 29th member library for the C-E-F Library System. The approval was the climax of the work conducted by Adeline Jaques, President, and the Wilmington Library Board members. The library has an active story hour program and has conducted book and food sales. The new library will be a town library, with board members appointed by the Wilmington Town Board. The Town Board was also instrumental in the formation of the new library, with Supervisor Donal DeMacy traveling to Albany to meet with Assemblyman Anthony Casale in a successful effort to expedite the chartering process. Town Board and Library Board members were present, along with Stanley Ransom, at the meeting of the Board of Regents at which the Library's charter was approved. Wilmington summer resident William Carr, Secretary to the Board of Regents, was extremely helpful in paving the way for charter approval.

Stanley A. Ransom

***************

GAYLORD CIRCULATION SYSTEM

C-E-F and Plattsburgh Public Library have received six Apple microcomputers and the software for the Gaylord automated circulation system. We are presently involved with conversion of some 200,000 volumes and 25,000 patron cards. Gaylord Vice-president Robert Scherzer spent one Friday with C-E-F and PPL staff explaining the system and reviewing the next steps for conversion.

Carol Bedore and her staff have already marked our shelf list cards preparatory for shipment to Gaylord. The tentative starting date for the automated system is June 1st.

Stanley A. Ransom

***************

BLACK POETRY DAY

Plans are well along toward the celebration of Black Poetry Day on October 17th, the birthday of Jupiter Hammon. State Library Consultant Bernard Finney met with Stanley Ransom, Lee Salzman and Mary Hopkins from the C-E-F staff and Betsy Baldwin and Lt. Bergin of Plattsburgh Air Force Base. The committee plans a poster, a brochure, a bibliography, proclamations, and speakers for this event. Work is also under way to create a collection of Black poetry for interlibrary loan. Information will be disseminated throughout the State.

Copies of "Americas First Negro Poet; The Complete Works of Jupiter Hammon of Long Island", edited by Stanley Ransom, may be obtained at a cost of $15.00 from the publisher: Associated Faculty Press, Inc., 90 South Bayles Avenue, Fort Washington, New York 11050.

Stanley A. Ransom

***************

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL on the ARTS GRANTS

Notification has been received that the C-E-F Library System will receive $10,000 for 16mm films by independent filmmakers. We appreciate this increase.

We also will receive $4,500 for a folklorist to study the maritime folk culture of Lake Champlain, in cooperation with folklorists from Vermont and Canada. The three month's study will be the preparation for further investigation into the maritime culture and also in another year the tentative creation of portable exhibits which will travel to our public libraries, schools and museums.

A third grant was for C-E-F to
present a folk music concert in cooperation with the Department of Continuing Education of Plattsburgh State University College.

A fourth grant was for a conservation workshop, with final plans still undecided.

We appreciate the support of the New York State Council on the Arts for these important projects.

Stanley A. Ransom

*********************

NYLA COOKBOOK

Stanley Ransom, Chairman of the NYLA Vitality Committee, has announced a New York State Regional Cookbook as a new project of the Vitality Committee. The Vitality Committee will be requesting that all New York State libraries submit their regional, historic and literary recipes to Stanley Ransom at the C-E-F Library System. It is expected that this "Library of New York State Recipes" will contain about 750 of the tastiest gourmet secrets known to librarians. A short background on the recipes would be appreciated, especially for historic recipes or those connected with authors or libraries as well as librarians. Recipes should include the name of the Library and of the person providing the recipe. The book is expected to be printed this summer. Recipe blanks will be sent to library systems for distribution at their pleasure.

Stanley A. Ransom

PAUL E. GREEN JOINS C-E-F BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Paul Green was appointed to the System Board of Trustees in January.

A native of Chazy, where his father managed Chazy Orchards, Paul Green attended the "old" Chazy Central Rural School through 12th grade. Graduating from Chazy in 1962, he attended Cornell University and majored in Engineering. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Cornell in 1966 and was married the same year to Sissy Capone of Bristol, Rhode Island.

In October of 1966 Paul entered Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island and was commissioned an Ensign the following March. During his Naval career, he served as Engineer Officer on a Minesweeper in the Caribbean and later as Administrative Officer aboard an attack aircraft carrier, the USS AMERICA, in the Gulf of Tonkin during the Vietnam War. In 1970 he left the U.S. Navy with the rank of Lieutenant and, after a brief period, resumed his military connection as Officer-in-Charge of the Reserve Unit in Burlington. During that time, he was promoted to Lieutenant Commander.

In 1970 he entered the apple business at Don G Orchards, Inc. and he is now owner, President and General Manager of this operation. He has been active in various community organizations over the years, including President of the Clinton County Farm Bureau and United Way of Clinton County and also serves on the Board of Education at Peru Central School and as Second Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce. He has been a Rotarian for twelve years and has served at the district level as Governor's Aide.

Paul and his wife, Sissy, live in Peru with their two daughters, Kimberly and Kristen.
CHRISTINA RANSOM TO BE MEDICAL LIBRARIAN AT CVPH MEDICAL CENTER

Christina Ransom will be the new Medical Librarian at Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital Medical Center in Plattsburgh, as of April 1.

Christina has been the Information Scientist and Manager of the Information Center at Ayerst Laboratories in Rouses Point for the past five years.

MINERVA C. WHITE RECEIVES REGENTS HONOR

Minerva C. White of Hogansburg, Director of the Native American Special Services program at St. Lawrence University, is one of five influential figures who received a Regents Medal of Excellence at commemoration ceremonies of the 1984 Bicentennial of the Board of Regents and the New York State Education Department which was held in Buffalo on February 22, 1984.

The full-day program was one of 12 monthly events scheduled during 1984 in observance of the Bicentennial celebrating 200 years of education in New York State and the University of the State of New York, founded by the Legislature in 1784. The awards were given to "noted leaders and thinkers from diverse fields of endeavor" to honor them for "their work to make public and social institutions more responsive to the needs of all Americans."

Mrs. White was honored for the integral part she has played in the renaissance of Native American education in New York State. Her first work in striving toward equal educational opportunities and voting rights for Native Americans was in service to the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation, where she was involved in all areas of community education development. She was the first Mohawk to be elected to serve on the Salmon River Central School District Board of Education; the director of education for the tribal council; coordinator of the tutorial program for Native American students with St. Lawrence University; was instrumental in the establishment of the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center; established the Right to Read program, high school equivalency and college extension programs, on the reservation.

Mrs. White served as chairman of the St. Regis Mohawk Parents Education Committee, working to change New York State legislation to give Native Americans representation on school boards; as a member of the National Science Academy's task force for minorities in engineering; and was chairman for the Iroquois Conference, Inc.

As director of the pilot project for the library development on the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation with the National Indian Education Association, she established librarian trainee programs and assisted in fund raising. Mrs. White was honored by the New York Iroquois Conference as 1975 Indian Woman of the Year; in 1973 St. Lawrence University awarded her a North Country Citation; and in 1976 she was selected by the White House to serve on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education. Clarkson College awarded her an honorary doctor of humane letters degree in 1977.
IN MEMORIAM

We were saddened to hear about the death of a former C-E-F employee, Estelle W. Shoemaker, on February 13 of this year.

Estelle was a clerk in Technical Services from April, 1964 to September, 1969.

A book will be donated in her memory by her friends at the System.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Jane Llewellyn on the death of her sister.

MEMBER LIBRARY PROFILE IV: THE LAKE PLACID PUBLIC LIBRARY

Editor’s Note: I would like to thank Lake Placid Librarian Therese Patnode for loaning me a rare pamphlet, Historical Sketch of Lake Placid Public Library, published in 1902, from which I obtained most of the material on the Library’s early history.

The Town of North Elba, in which Lake Placid is located, was late in being settled compared to many other areas in the North Country. An early historian described it as a place of "wild solitude" where "nature...reigns in her primitive silence and repose."

There was a Mohawk summer village in the area before the white man (apparently there weren't too many inducements to brave the long, cold winters before the advent of central heating and winter sports). The first known white settlement is thought to have been founded in 1800 by a Revolutionary War veteran from Vermont. The area remained sparsely populated for the next half-century, because of failures in agriculture and iron ore mining. Lumbering was a main industry. In the 1850's the area began to attract attention as a summer resort area.

The establishment of a library occurred relatively early in the history of Lake Placid. It was one of the first buildings on Main Street.

On January 15, 1884, in the Adirondack Baptist Chapel at Lake Placid a small group of people "interested in the literary advancement" of the community formed the Library Association of North Elba and filed a Certificate of Incorporation with the Town Clerk (who donated the recording costs). The object of the Association was "to create and sustain increased interest in literature by providing good and instructive reading." The annual membership dues were fifty cents.

The next step was to select a site for the library and reading-room. The minutes of that meeting record that "after a lively discussion and a few hot words" the present site on the west shore of Mirror Lake (Mirror Lake joins Lake Placid, from which the village received its name) was agreed upon and land was leased from the Adirondack Baptist Church for $1.00 per year (which the church returned to the library annually as a donation).
Then followed the erection of the building. An architect from New York City drew up the plans free of charge. R. W. Clifford was chosen as the builder, for the sum of $1,200. Mr. Clifford gave the Association credit for materials and workmen's time donated. Many did give their time and work. There were gifts of lumber and a saw-mill owner donated part of the "saw-bill". All this left $200 to be paid and a subscription list was circulated — many of the contributions were as small as fifty cents and one dollar. Enough money was raised in short order; there was even a $3.50 surplus in the Treasury.

By 1894 it was decided that the library would receive greater benefits if it were transferred from the Library Association to the supervision of the State as an institution of the State University. So, School District No. 2 of the Town of North Elba voted to establish a free public library and voted $300 per year for its maintenance; a charter was received. An inventory at the time of transition showed $650 in books, $1,250 in building, grounds and other property, bringing the total monetary value of the Library up to $1,900! The total annual income of the Library at that time was $400; besides the $300 from the school district $50 was raised from gifts and subscriptions and an additional $50 from "Entertainments".

Many years later, in 1951, when the school district centralized, the library received a new charter as a Central School District Library.

The Library is now celebrating its centennial with the second fund drive in its history in order to finance renovations. Included in the plans are expanding and redesigning the bookshelf area on the first and second floors and turning the previously unused basement into a Librarian's office, book processing and storage area. There are also plans to build an access ramp for the handicapped. The only other renovation project which has taken place at the Library was the opening of the second floor (which contains the reference room) in 1952.

Carol Bedore and I sat in the Reading Room of the Library chatting with Librarian Therese Patnode. We were joined later by her Assistant, Linda Blair.

It was a perfect winter day and we looked out the window at frozen, but still beautiful, Mirror Lake as we talked. There was quite a bit of traffic on the ice that day — including a dogsled. The Lake Placid Club is on the opposite shore of the Lake and it came out during the conversation that Melvil Dewey had often visited this library.

And we found yet another Olympic connection. Therese had just returned from Sarajevo, the third Winter Olympics she'd attended. Besides the 1980 Placid games she'd been to Innsbruck, Austria in 1976.

Therese became Librarian at Lake Placid in January of 1973. As always, it was a delight to visit her at the library and we certainly appreciated her graciousness and patience in providing material for this article, even though she was in the midst of the renovation project.

Mary S. Hopkins
The circulation desk, near the library's front entrance.

The Lake Placid Public Library.

Lake Placid, New York.

The Lake Placid Public Library.

Theresa Parode gives Edith Mary Hopkins a tour of the basement area which will be her new office and workroom.
Mirror Lake, taken from inside the Library.

Sign in front of the Olympic Center.

The Main Clubhouse of the Lake Placid Club, overlooking Mirror Lake.

Whiteface Mountain, dominating the village of Lake Placid, is "the Olympic Mountain", Site of the 1980 Winter Olympic Alpine events.

Photos by Carol G. Bedore
BIBLIOGRAPHY for the LAKE PLACID ARTICLES


---

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

National Library Week is April 8 to 14 this year. Posters and bookmarks on the theme Knowledge is Real Power (featuring Superman!) have been distributed to the C-E-F member libraries and bookmobiles.

---

HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

OUTREACH NEWS

We are happy to have Marge Wachtmeister working with us in the Outreach Department. She joined the System in late January as a part-time senior library clerk under our Rural Health Information Delivery grant. Marge is kept busy compiling bibliographies, seeking out and acquiring health information pamphlets and brochures, and making contacts with health providers within our three county area. She welcomes input from member librarians and others in terms of particular health information needs for their communities.

**************************

---

Some recent additions have been made to our books on cassette tape collection, and we would like to share these titles with you:

- **Different Seasons,** by Stephen King. Read by Frank Muller. (7 cassettes)
- **The Holy Bible: New Testament** (King James version). Read by Marvin Miller. (16 cassettes)
- **The Little Drummer Girl,** by John le Carré. Read by the author. (4 cassettes)
- **Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less,** by Jeffrey Archer. Read by Paul Daneman. (2 cassettes)
Riders of the Purple Sage, by Zane Grey. (7 cassettes)

Second Heaven, by Judith Guest. Read by Sherry Blair. (7 cassettes)

The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett. Read by Gwen Watford. (2 cassettes)

Shane, by Jack Schaefer. Read by Peter Marinker. (2 cassettes)

The Third Man, by Graham Greene. Read by James Mason. (2 cassettes)

We have also acquired new language instruction cassettes for French, German and Russian. Don't forget that these are available on interlibrary loan, and that cassette tape players may also be borrowed.

****************************

On February 22nd and 23rd, our System was visited by Bernard Finney, Institution Library Consultant for Library Development in Albany. His visit was a dual purpose one — the first being to attend a committee meeting concerning preparations for Black Poetry Day, a special project funded by a LSCA Title I grant. The next day, Mr. Finney accompanied Mr. Ransom and Lee Salzman on visits to Adirondack Correctional Facility and the Federal Correctional Institution, both located in Ray Brook. We were particularly pleased with the advice and support that Mr. Finney was able to supply to Yvonne Fast, the new librarian at Adirondack Correctional Facility. Our visit was a follow-up to a consultant visit made earlier in January by Carol Bedore, John Crager and Mary Hopkins.

Lee Salzman
Assistant Director/
Head of Outreach

A NEW AGE IN ACquisitions

There is a new piece of equipment in Acquisitions — a Bataphone. The Bataphone is a hand-held data terminal for book ordering. ISBN's are keyed in and transmitted electronically, over a telephone line, to the Baker and Taylor Company. This process eliminates the typing of orders and postal delays. Upon receipt of the transmission, Baker and Taylor sends 3" x 5" confirmation slips back to us for our order file.

The computer age promises the "office of the future," where we can, with the use of computers, do our work at home. The Bataphone is a step in that direction. It will take some time for me to convince "the powers that be" that by staying home, relaxed in bed, I am helping to usher in a brand new age. Or perhaps, we can gather together on some sunlit beach with our hand-held computers, pecking away, lamenting on how hard we work. Key West would be nice this time of year.

Carol G. Bedore
Head of Acquisitions

CONSULTANT VISIT

Carol Bedore, John Crager and Mary Hopkins made a consultant visit to the Adirondack Correctional Facility at Ray Brook on January 30. The C-E-F consultants met with A.C.F.'s Librarian, Yvonne Fast and Frank Torres, Clerk, to discuss C-E-F services.
RECENT BOOKS of LOCAL INTEREST


Many residents of the northern towns in Clinton and Franklin Counties will remember the Rutland Railroad which, before its 1963 abandonment, provided daily train service from Rouses Point across through Malone to Ogdensburg. In 1964 Jim Shaughnessy, a railroad historian from Troy, published an outstanding history of the line from its beginning in the 1850's until its demise in 1963. Recently he has completed a second edition which has been published by Howell-North Books at $30.00. The first two hundred pages of the new edition are the same as in the first one. However, he has added a new chapter discussing the new railroads that are now operating on portions of the old Rutland's tracks in Vermont and in St. Lawrence County. He has also added 55 pages of new photographs taken on these later lines from 1964-1981. Unfortunately the lines in Clinton and Franklin Counties were never revived. However, libraries in the area may wish to update their copies with this new edition and certainly libraries which do not have the first edition should purchase this one.

Richard W. Ward

******************************************************************************


Peggy Salté, nee Fountinier, is a local girl, born and raised in Keene Valley. Her father, Carl, is a guide at the St. Eustace Club. He picks a husband, Charlie Salté, for her when she is still a child and as Peggy later writes in her journal "the servitude seemed a natural act because it pleased both my father and Charlie." Her close friend, Alston Tucker, one of the summer people, is an artist and becomes her second husband when Charlie walks out on her. The natural splendor of the Adirondacks — its trails and fishing holes — are all here in abundance, but the center of the story is Peggy herself. Her indomitable spirit and goodness shine throughout.

Carol G. Bedore

NORTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFRONTS PORNOGRAPHY

"Not A Love Story", a film about pornography, was shown by the Northern Adirondack Library Association at the Plattsburgh Public Library on February 16, 1984. There were nearly one hundred people in the audience — representing libraries, the clergy, human service agencies, the Council of Community Services, the college community and women's groups.

"Not A Love Story" (produced by the National Film Board of Canada) traces the journey of two women, a filmmaker and a Montreal stripper, through the world of pornography. There are several very explicit scenes as well as interviews with people who earn their living in the porn trade. Also included are interviews with prominent feminists who maintain that pornography dehumanizes women.

N.A.L.A. President Karen Richet-
son welcomed the audience. Carol Bedore and Mary Hopkins moderated the stimulating discussion following the film — many conflicting points of view were expressed.

The audience response to the program was so positive that the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System has decided to purchase the film and other organizations have indicated an interest in showing the film.

For further information concerning "Not A Love Story", contact Mary Hopkins at C-E-F Headquarters. Phone 563-5190.

**************************

REMINDER

THE DEADLINE FOR THE TRAILBLAZER
NEWS FOR THE MAY/JUNE
ISSUE IS FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1984.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AKWESASNE LIBRARY and CULTURAL CENTER

The Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center recently received a $9,190 federal grant which will assist the museum in organizing a touring exhibition on black ash splint and sweetgrass basketry.

..............................................................

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

The AuSable Forks Free Library is the recipient of a painting donated by Priscilla Belmore. A drawing will be held for it at a later date. The Library is very much indebted to Mrs. Belmore.

**************************

A card party was held at the AuSable Forks Free Library on Wednesday, February 22, 1984.

Dessert was served, followed by bridge, canasta and rummy.

There were prizes for each table
plus door prizes and favors.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A series of evening programs about raising children was sponsored by the Keene Playgroup. The free public programs were held at the Keene Valley Library.

The Playgroup also hosts morning play times for pre-school youngsters in the Keene–Keene Valley area.

On February 16, at the Keene Valley Library, a program was presented on "Speech and Language Development in Pre-Schoolers," by Bunny Apthorp, a licensed speech pathologist who has a private practice in Essex County.

On Thursday, February 23, a program titled "Discipline, Who Needs It?" was presented by David and Betty Thomas-Train, directors of the Children's Center of the North Country, a day care pre-school program in Elizabethtown.

Other programs in the series included:

Tuesday, February 28: "Childhood Sexuality." This program covered such topics as how to answer a pre-schooler's questions, what is normal behavior for this age, talking to children about sexuality, and more. This program was presented by Kathy Sajor, educator-trainer for Northern Adirondack Planned Parenthood.

Tuesday, March 6: "Pre-school Vision," presented by Dr. Richard Erenstone, a practicing optometrist with offices in Lake Placid and Saranac Lake and a Fellow of the College of Optometrists and Vision Development.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Wead Library's annual circulation increased once again in 1983, reaching 59,339 items, 382 more than in 1982! 1,250 books were added to the collection through purchase, while the grand total holdings reached 34,521, with 31,793 of this number being books. During 1983, the Library's Conference Room was used 163 times by organizations and agencies other than the library. Films and slides had their usage increased from 569 to 1,296. The total number of reference questions handled during 1983 was 3,277. Again this past year, there was a great emphasis on consumer information and also requests for aid in finding material for writing term and research papers—an understandable item with so many students assigned to do such papers. However, the interesting aspect this past year was that so many requests came from people who had been out of the academic arena for some time, and upon re-entering it, at the junior college level, for instance, found that they needed a few pointers as to how and where to look things up, and how to handle footnotes, citations, and bibliographic items. In all, it seemed a productive period.

On Monday, March 5, Director Dave Minnich was on WICY Radio's "Forum"; the assumption being that he could find a few things to say concerning libraries, and more particularly local library service. This is but one example of the methods that the local radio station and the Malone Evening Telegram use to publicize our efforts to serve our local patrons and encourage people to make use of this library as a resource for information, education, and recreation.
The Friends of the Plattsburgh Public Library met on February 15th at the Library. Their new officers are Connie Donovan, President; Victoria LaRocque, Vice-President; Connie Wheeler, Secretary; and Kate Barton, Treasurer.

One of their major projects is the installation of water fountains at the Library.

They also discussed the establishment of a Civic Documents collection for the Library. For this they hope to have the co-operation of the various Departments of the City, who will send the Library important, current documents for this collection to be available for the public.

They are also making plans to help the Library in celebration of National Library Week.

New members are always welcome. If interested, please call Connie Donovan, 561-3454, or Leah Miaskoff at the Library, 563-0921.

The Plattsburgh Public Library has a copy of a three volume study just issued by the New York State Energy Office.

This Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Study focuses on eight major aspects of the decisions facing New York State regarding this issue and contains a series of recommended actions for the management of this type of waste.

In February a series of hearings to receive public comment on this study was held in various locations throughout the state.

The Plattsburgh Public Library has more information about these public hearings. The Library also has other government documents, local and state, available to the public.

The official 1984 Louisiana World's Fair Library Reference Packet, a comprehensive tour guide assembled by the Louisiana Office of Tourism, is now being distributed at the Plattsburgh Public Library.

Librarian Katherine Cayea said the packet would be available for use by patrons during regular library hours.

The self-help tour guide was created by the state's tourism office to provide travel information and historical data to World's Fair visitors. Using the packet, potential visitors will be able to better prepare their itineraries, be more knowledgeable prior to their arrival and also be sure that they can make arrangements to see those things of particular interest while traveling across Louisiana.

The World's Fair will open in New Orleans on May 12, 1984 and will close on November 11, 1984.

The Plattsburgh Public Library has recently added 149 record albums to its record collection.

Many titles are new, but an effort was also made to include older albums and groups to round out the Library's collection. The new albums include a good mix of popular music, country & western, movie soundtracks, Broadway shows — both new and old — and some jazz and classical.

The ELDERHOSTEL Catalog of
Educational Adventures for Older Adults is now available at the Plattsburgh Public Library.

The catalog contains over 125 pages of fascinating educational programs for older adults which take place on the campuses of colleges, universities and other educational centers in the United States, Canada and around the world.

ELDERHOSTEL is a non-profit educational organization composed of a network of over 700 independent campuses worldwide. Participating schools design and host ELDERHOSTEL programs of one or more weeks in length, in which the hostalers live on the campus in dormitories, eat in the cafeterias, use the school library and facilities and take up to three non-credit courses on a variety of liberal arts subjects taught by the institution's faculty.

The Children's Read-A-Thon, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, came to an end on February 25th, when all received participation certificates. Gift certificates, donated by the Friar Tuck Book Store, were given to Aimee Perry, Judd Morrissey, Timmy Dooley, Sara Bosworth, Kelly Rabideau, and Todd Ritterhausen. $133.50 was raised for the "Friends". Refreshments were enjoyed by all after the ceremony.

DODGE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ROUSES POINT

The library has a series of framed Republic of China postage stamps on display. Subjects are:

1. Chinese Folk Tales
2. Ancient Chinese Enamelware
3. Ancient Chinese Painting — "Festivals for the New Year"
4. Chinese Classical Poetry — Sung Ts' u

5. Ancient Chinese Painting — 100 young boys
6. Ch’iu Ying’s Landscape Painting
7. Completion of 10 Major Construction Projects
8. Chinese Classical Poetry

The library also has a display of needlework entitled "Winter Pastimes." Various types of needlework are displayed including needlepoint, cross stitch, crewel work, crochet and knitting. Antique sewing baskets and a Victorian pin cushion add a homey look which is calculated to lure those interested in these crafts to get busy and stitch.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

The theme of a recent storyhour program at the Saranac Lake Free Library, was "Ah, Food!" Besides reading stories and poems to the children, Kluane Snyder (who presents these programs) encouraged the children to participate in finger plays and to answer questions about the stories. She also assisted the children with their book selections.

Thirty photographs of old Saranac Lake were exhibited at the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library.

Mrs. Barbara Parnass, of Saranac Lake, printed and hung the photographs of scenes in and around the village sixty to eighty years ago which show how people lived, worked, played and enjoyed the winter.

Mrs. Parnass recently reprinted the works from the library's extensive collection of Distin and Kollecker glass plate negatives as part of an ongoing project. Mrs. Parnass reports
that the cleaning and storing of these negatives is now almost complete. She will continue to print from the plates.

Funding for the mats for framing the exhibit was provided by Marine Midland Bank and Saranac Lake Federal Savings and Loan. The tea frames were obtained as part of the Sense of Community: Diversity and Change project, with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the New York State Library. Both the mats and frames can be reused.

Archival materials for the continuing project, including storage envelopes and boxes and photographic paper, were purchased with a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts.

Mrs. Parnass, a professional photographer, whose works were exhibited this past summer in the Adirondack Store and Gallery, is one of numerous library volunteers who yearly donate their time and special skills to assist with a variety of essential library projects and services.

Susan Neal presented a children’s program, Creative Dramatics, on February 18, at 10:30 a.m., in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library.

The program consisted of a series of theatre games designed to be both entertaining and instructive. Through movement and sound, the children explored their imaginations. Concentration and observation were stressed.

Susan has been active in theatre all her life. After graduating from the University of Virginia, she worked Off Broadway for two years. In 1979 she moved to the North Country where she has performed, directed and produced theatre almost continuously.

She and her husband, Bob Pettee, work with Pendragon, are co-founders of Sennet and are beginning their third year with the Prop Trunk Players. Last summer they took Jack Kendrick's Third Class Carriage to the Edinburgh Festival where it won a Fringe First Award. In December they performed the show in Sweden. Susan has taught drama throughout the North Country.

The program was arranged by the Library’s Programs Committee.

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY,
TUPPER LAKE

The list of exhibitors for the five mini-art shows scheduled at the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library this winter was announced by the program sponsor, Tupper Lake Presents...Ltd. Each exhibit, to be displayed on the library’s main floor, will last one month, beginning in January and running through May. The art show series opened with the photographic works of Eleanor Sweeney. In February Sudjai Bentley of Mt. Arab Lake exhibited her paintings for viewing by the local public. Other local artists in the mini-series will be Louis Simmons, Frances Rickamer, and Bea Maroun, who will put their paintings on display in March, April, and May, respectively.

PAINE MEMORIAL LIBRARY,
WILLSBORO

Excitement mounts as the library proceeds with plans for the second annual Old Time Folkcraft Fair. The fair this year will be held on Saturday, July 28, on the Paine Memorial Library Lawn, from 10-4. This is a rain or shine event as alternate plans are being worked out. So mark your calendar now, and save this important date
to come and join in the celebration of things done well by hand.

Area craft persons are invited to join for the day to share their crafts through exhibits, demonstrations, and the sale of their craft products. Interested craft persons wishing to take part should contact the library soon. Detailed information will then be mailed to you, along with a registration form.

It was a highlight event in 1983. Plans are to make it even better in 1984. So, don't miss the big day, July 28!

The Paine Memorial Free Library would like to announce a new service that is now available at the Library. In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Festus Smith's 55th Wedding Anniversary, their children and families purchased a new cassette player and several books on tape. These are to be loaned out to interested persons for a specific loan period. This would allow any interested person that finds it difficult to read to keep in touch with the world of books. The family suggested this service as being a compliment to the many services already available at the Library.

The Library is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Holmes (Myrtice), Mr. and Mrs. Herb Ammenheuser (Lucille), and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Smith for making this lovely honorary gift available to its patrons. As the service is used, new tapes will be added to the collection.

The Friends of the Library held their Annual meeting on Tuesday, January 24th at 3:30 in the afternoon. A slate of new officers was presented for election at this time and a short business meeting was held. The remainder of the meeting was an Open House and reception to celebrate the opening of the new children's area in the library basement. John and Lori Anderson have transformed a drab and dull basement into a beautiful and workable children's area. The Friends group furnished many of the new items in this area, and these were on exhibit at the Open House.

The Library's new Xerox copier was recently installed and there have been many requests for the copying service.

The library has obtained a locked display case so that local patrons can share their special collections. The displays are rotated on a monthly basis.

The Paine Memorial Free Library has both Federal and New York State income tax forms available. The Internal Revenue Service provides libraries with a set of master copies of all the required forms, with their permission to reproduce them upon request.

WILMINGTON E.M. COOPER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Representatives of the Town of Wilmington and the Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library were in Albany recently to attend the Board of Regents meeting to receive the Library's official Charter.

While at the State Capitol, the
delegates met with representatives from State Senator Ronald B. Stafford's office and Assemblyman Anthony J. Casale to thank them for their assistance in processing the Charter application and to discuss procedures for obtaining state aid to operate the Library.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary S. Hopkins, Editor

SAVE THIS DATE!

Monday, May 21 — GRANTSMANSHIP WORKSHOP.

Representatives from the Foundation Center in New York City and the Center for Arts Information will be discussing the writing of grant proposals and grant resources.

Tim Hartnett will be the moderator.