It seems that one holiday tradition has evolved for the last Trailblazer of the year - it's the one issue in which I'm short-winded with my introductory remarks.

I would like to thank all the C-E-F Staff who helped at the various stages of the Trailblazer's production (typing, reproduction, assembly and mailing) during 1984:

Marilyn Blanchard
Rosemary Burdo
Eric Coate
Ann Hobson
Tracey LaBarge
Toni McCoy
Elsie Parsey
Kathleen Roblee

I will now conclude my preface by wishing everyone a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Mary Shaw Hopkins
Editor

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

It's been a satisfying but hectic year. The passage of the Omnibus Bill has provided us with more money to do specialized jobs. The School Library System planning team is making real progress. The Outreach portion of our library service is expanding rapidly.

It is hectic in that there has been tremendous pressure to do extra work, to file reports, to make applications and to do detailed planning within a very short time, and we sympathize with the State Library personnel already short-staffed, who respond to our applications and reports. We appreciate their hard work and hope that next year there will be legislative support for increasing the staff of Library Development to its former level.

Staff are badly needed at the State Library, and we support and encourage the move to restore them. We are also
conscious of the fact that even though the Omnibus Bill granted us a 10% increase in operating funds, this amounted to only 5% a year over the past 3 years. We need an improved formula to help us keep up with the costs of operating our C-E-F Library System.

The Public Library System Directors' Organization (PULISDO) will be addressing this need this Spring, and giving it a high priority.

Meanwhile, reviewing our service over the past year, I feel we are making real progress and have taken some big steps toward improving our library services to member libraries and patrons. Thank you, C-E-F Library Board, the C-E-F Staff and Member Librarians, for your ideas, suggestions and support.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

BLACK POETRY DAY
October 17, 1984

An audience of over 125 persons enthusiastically responded to the readings of her works by the noted Black poet, June Jordan, on Black Poetry Day. Miss Jordan, a native of Brooklyn, read from her many works including selections from her forthcoming book, "Living Room," at the October 17th program held at Plattsburgh State University College.

Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System sponsored the event, with assistance of a Library Services and Construction Title I grant from the New York State Library, and support from Poets & Writers, Inc. C-E-F also distributed colorful posters, flyers, brochures and a bibliography to approximately 980 public library outlets in New York State through the courtesy of the public library systems.

We thank the public library system directors and staff for distributing these items to their libraries.

Next year, under an LSCA grant, a new series of programs and publications will be forthcoming. We appreciate the assistance of Bernard Finney, Jr., of Library Development staff, for acting as consultant to the project and for his excellent advice and suggestions.

Black Poetry Day occurs on October 17th, the birthday of Jupiter Hammon of Long Island, first Black in America to publish his own verse. Black Poetry Day is now listed in Chase's Calendar of Annual Events.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

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WHAT'S COOKING WITH THE NYLA RECIPE BOOK

We have now received 300 recipes from libraries, authors and librarians all over New York State. We would very much like to receive at least 200 more. Can you send us a few more recipes, dear readers? We'd like regional, family, or your own special recipes to include. We will be starting to publish the book in January, 1985, with whatever recipes we have then.

We also would appreciate additional advance orders. The cost is $8.50 plus $.50 for mailing, for a total cost of $9.00. Please make checks payable to "NYLA Cookbook Fund" and send to Stanley Ransom at C-E-F.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director
PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANT

On October 31, the following applications for funds were sent to Albany.

1. Saranac Lake Free Library $ 6,500
2. Wilmington/E.M. Cooper Memorial Library 7,500
3. AuSable Forks Free Library 18,300
4. Mooers Free Library 2,500
5. Keene Valley Library 18,000
6. Champlain Valley Public Library 3,000

$55,800

We have a total of $71,135 allotted to the C-E-F area for public library construction in 1984. There is a real concern for getting construction started, and there is now a foot of snow on the ground. We are pleased that this money is available to be used for handicapped access, energy conservation and enlarging library facilities.

Stanley A. Ransom

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FORT COVINGTON READING CENTER

There is considerable interest in starting a library in a former church in Fort Covington. This community has already gathered several thousand books and is approaching the Town Board for funds to start a public reading center. This has been a very busy stop for the C-E-F Bookmobile, with about 10,000 circulation per year. We will be working with community leaders to help them with their library.

Stanley A. Ransom

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LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME CULTURE STUDY

Dr. Sheldon Posen has been spending the past few weeks interviewing local resi-

dents along Lake Champlain. His special interest is in ice fishing and the ways and lore of those who venture out onto the lake in search of perch and smelt. Another interest is the way Champ, our Lake Champlain monster, is viewed by local residents. He is also photographing the area and will be preparing a slide-tape presentation and gathering ice fishing implements for a later exhibit at the Clinton County Historical Museum. Dr. Posen will return in February when the ice fishing shanties show that ice fishing has begun.

This study is funded in part by a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts.

Stanley A. Ransom

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TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

It is with sadness that we announce the retirement (on December 31, 1984) of Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Board Trustee Paul E. Vogan of Mooers, who has served on the System Board of Trustees for nearly a quarter of a century.

Paul retired from Mooers Central School in 1970 after serving 26 years as District Principal and as Vice Principal. Paul has participated in many educational organizations and activities. He has served as President of the North Eastern Zone of the State Retired Teachers Association and has received many honors in the field of education.

Paul was also the Congressional Representative from his district at the 1981 Governor's White House Conference on Aging.

Paul has been a member of the C-E-F Library Board of Trustees since January 1, 1960. He was President of the Board in 1965 and 1st Vice President from 1974 to 1977. He was also the C-E-F liaison to the Plattsburgh Public Library Board of Trustees and the trustee representative on the System's Members Advisory Council.

We will miss him.

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The System will also be losing Board Trustee William Harvey of Saranac Lake who has served on the System Board since February of 1962. He is retiring at the end of this year.

Bill was President of the Board in 1970 and 1971 and 1st Vice President in 1968 and 1969.

For many years Bill was the proprietor of Harvey's Bookstore. He has contributed much to the library over the years and he will be greatly missed.

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MEMBER LIBRARY PROFILE VII: THE SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

Editor's Note: I would especially like to thank Joyce Meagher, Director of the Saranac Lake Free Library, for her help in preparing this article. Not only did she spend several hours touring the library with Carol Bedore and me, but she also assembled a collection of newspaper clippings and other materials which have been of immense help.

I would also like to thank Jack Delahant, President-Curator of the Stevenson Society of America (and also a Saranac Lake Library Trustee), who gave us a fascinating tour of the Robert Louis Stevenson Cottage in Saranac Lake.

The library has recently undergone an expansion and renovation project which is to be celebrated with an Open House on November 29,
from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The two-story addition provides 900 square feet of extra space on each level. The entire library has been re-carpeted. The children's area has been relocated and enlarged and a glassed-in audio-visual room has been added.

Also, a 150 year old treasure, a gorgeous stained-glass window, entitled 'Morning, Noon and Evening,' was remounted where it could be more easily seen by the public. The window was made by the notable Scottish artist, James Ballantyne.

By an odd twist of fate, the history of Saranac Lake was, in large part, determined by what was once one of mankind's most dreaded diseases - tuberculosis.

The village began as a small settlement in the Adirondack wilderness. Lumbering and, later, the tourist trade, became the major industries. In 1876, however, Dr. Edward Livingston Trudeau moved to Saranac Lake. Earlier, Trudeau, then thought to be dying of TB, had travelled to nearby Paul Smith's and experienced a remarkable recovery which he attributed to the area's climate.

Trudeau became the leading advocate of the fresh-air cure for tuberculosis. He built a research laboratory and a sanitarium in Saranac Lake and became a renowned expert on the disease. The village itself became an internationally famous health resort. For several decades TB patients flocked to Saranac Lake for the cure; among them were some of the most famous and talented people in the world, who brought a cosmopolitan influence to what had formerly been a small Adirondack hamlet.

The community's first library was actually the private book collection of a highly literate village cobbler, Hillel Baker, who allowed children to borrow his books. This ended with his death in the 1870's.

Dr. Trudeau and his friends had formed a reading club and they later saw the need for a permanent public li-brary in the community. They contributed books and money for its formation and, in 1880, the Franklin County Library was erected. One suspects that the TB patients, who were confined to bed or to open porches in the often frigid (but supposedly, healing) air and hence deprived of other means of recreation other than reading, contributed to the great reverence for books which is a tradition in Saranac Lake.

When the increasing demands of running his sanitarium forced Trudeau to withdraw from his involvement in 1891, the book collection was moved to the parish house of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and became the Adirondack Library. This library closed in 1906.

In 1907 George V.W. Duryee, a healthseeker, organized the Saranac Lake Free Library, a public library association. The library received its charter from the New York State Board of Regents in 1907 and the present library building was completed in 1910.

By 1924, the library had grown so much that it was necessary to build an addition. Another addition was built in 1968 and, of course, yet another addition has been completed this year.

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It is quite evident that the library has grown tremendously over the years. In 1983 it circulated almost 90,000 items! Even more impressive, I think, is the degree of public involvement with the library.

Director Joyce Meagher has a small staff - one full-time assistant, Helen

*Our readers might be interested to know that Garry Trudeau of Doonesbury fame is a descendent of Dr. Edward Trudeau.
Sprague, and part-time assistants, Dorothy Reichhart and Marilyn Petty, but there are a lot of volunteers! Thirty of these volunteers contribute over 1,000 hours apiece per year. The library also has an extremely active Friends group which sponsors many cultural and fund-raising events. All over the library one can find donations from individuals and organizations - even the plants and an aquarium were gifts.

While the library did receive federal funds for expansion through the Emergency Jobs Act, a great deal of money was raised locally and many community organizations enthusiastically participated in what became a popular community project. It should also be added that volunteers from Camp Adirondack, a medium-security correctional facility at Ray Brook, donated over 500 man-hours on the construction work.

The Saranac Lake Library provides several services which are out of the ordinary. The library serves as an art gallery for the village; there is a splendid collection of Adirondack paintings displayed all over the library. Some of these paintings date back to the late 1920's. At the time of our visit, there was also an art exhibit of works by members of the Paint and Palette Art Association in the Cantwell Community Room. The library also has a new public microcomputer donated by the Women's College Scholarship Club, which was selected to tie in with the Computer Science program at Saranac Lake High School.

Adjoining the Community Room is an unusual type of museum - The Charles Dickert Memorial Wildlife Museum. This is the mounted wildlife collection which belonged to the late Edmond Guggenheim; Dickert was the skillful taxidermist who created the collection.

The Library's expansion also doubled the size of the William Chapman White and Ruth Morris White Memorial Adirondack Room which contains an extensive collection of Adirondack books and other historical treasures. Besides being of interest to the public, these materials are an invaluable aid to the researcher. William Chapman White himself was the author of several works on this region, the best known of which is Adirondack Country.

It is in this room that one also finds the Robert Louis Stevenson Collection. The author of Treasure Island spent the winter of 1887-88 in Saranac Lake in order to be treated for tuberculosis by Dr. Trudeau (who never managed to break Stevenson of his cigarette habit). Stevenson, during his stay, visited the old Franklin County Library and personally delivered an autographed copy of one of his books, Gentlemen Friends; it is included in the present Stevenson collection. The cool night air of Saranac Lake inspired Stevenson to write the Master of Ballantrae; he also completed several other works while he was an invalid in Saranac.

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At best, I have given only a cursory view of the Saranac Lake Free Library. I could have gone on and on if space had permitted. It is a lovely library and its slogan for this year, "Growing With The Information Age," is very fitting; I have no doubt that the library will continue to grow and expand with the community. It always has.

Mary S. Hopkins
THE ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON MEMORIAL COTTAGE.

THE STAINED-GLASS WINDOW, "MORNING, NOON AND EVENING."

BEAR AND FRIEND GREET VISITORS AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE CHARLES DICKERT MEMORIAL COLLECTION.

THE CANTWELL COMMUNITY ROOM.

THE REFERENCE AND READING AREA ON THE MAIN FLOOR. THE NEW AUDIO-VISUAL AREA IS IN THE RIGHT CORNER.

Photos by Carol G. Bedore
A VISIT TO THE ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON COTTAGE

Robert Louis Stevenson came to Saranac Lake in October 1887 to rest and recover from the debilitating effects of tuberculosis. His mother, Margaret, his wife, Fanny, his stepson, Lloyd Osborne and his maid accompanied him. They settled in a small cottage atop a hill, about ten minutes from the village. At the time it was the Baker cottage, but, from that winter onward, it would be called the Stevenson Cottage. Still standing there today, it now houses the largest collection of Stevensoniana in the United States. It was there that we went searching for the real Robert Louis Stevenson. I think there is a fascination with the personal articles of the famous; to sift through them searching for clues to their owner. Was this the pen used to write about Poor Blind Pew tapping his way up the lane to the Admiral Benbow Inn? It is fun to tie them with our own memories of when, with book in hand, we fought along with Jim Hawkins. What was he like, this weaver of tales, creator of the infamous Mr. Hyde and Long John Silver and, on the other hand, the gentle poet of children's verses. Mary and I crossed the porch, of which he wrote:

"I was walking in the verandah of a small house outside the hamlet of Saranac. It was winter, the night was very dark; the air clear and cold and sweet with the purity of forests. For the making of a story here were fine conditions.

'Come' said I to my engine, 'Let us make a tale.'"

That tale became the Master of Ballantrae.

Inside the cottage are his collected autographed works in a bookcase. On a wall nearby are the original woodcuts engraved by Robert Louis Stevenson to illustrate the chapbooks published by Osborne and Stevenson.

Encased in glass are the momentos of the man. His desk is here, an inkwell, a hat and cape, a lock of hair cut by his mother and framed in an ornate picture frame, a letter to the local butcher, Mr. Oldfield, humorously berating him for a tough piece of mutton. For by that time, Robert Louis Stevenson was a famous author and each conversation, letter and personal belonging was preserved and filed away. I can imagine the dinner conversations that started with "I spoke to Robert Louis Stevenson today and he said" or "I saw Robert Louis Stevenson skating on Moody Pond; he must be feeling better." Yes, I imagine Robert Louis Stevenson's ears were ringing a good many times during his stay.

The same furniture that the Stevensons used is still there. The mantel over the stove still bares the scars of the cigarettes that he left burning. I think the most revealing part of the Stevenson collection is his portrait done in oil. It shows a ravaged face, hair a bit too long and the eyes...deep set and penetrating. Gazing at the portrait I think of the man himself, who, looking out the window of that little cottage almost a hundred years ago, wrote:

"Lo, shining flowers upon my window-pane
The silver pencil of the winter draws"

This house where Robert Louis Stevenson dwelt during the winter of 1887-88 has been preserved for us largely through the efforts of Colonel Walter Scott to whom the Stevenson Society is forever grateful. I wish to add my own thanks, too.

Carol Bedore
Acquisitions
HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

OUTREACH NEWS

Lee Salzman was invited back by two organizations to present programs during the month of November. The film entitled "Holistic Health" was shown to the Clinton County Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation. Lee also took the opportunity to acquaint them with talking book services available from C-E-F as a subleasing agency of the New York State Library for the Blind and Visually Handicapped. The Keeseville Women's Club thoroughly enjoyed viewing the film "Christmas Lace." This was followed by a demonstration of how to do Christmas origami based on examples given in the book Origami for Christmas by Chiyo Araki.

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Memorial donations have been received from family and friends of Mrs. Anne W. Marsh for the purchase of books on tape. These donations were given in appreciation of the services received by Mrs. Marsh from the Outreach staff.

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The Outreach Staff wishes to say a public thank you to the Essex County Retired Senior Volunteer Program for the assistance they are giving us in the repair of machines for our talking book service.

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As another component our LSCA funded Rural Health Information Delivery project, Marge Wachtmeister is preparing book kits to be distributed to 31 agencies within our three county area. These will be located in offices, waiting rooms, etc., where the public can have quick, easy access to these sources.

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December is a month for building awareness of deafness and the needs of the hearing impaired in our service area and nationwide. December has been proclaimed Deaf Month, and December 2-9 has been formally proposed by the American Library Association Council as National Deaf Heritage Week. According to estimates prepared by the Gallaudet Research Institute Center for Assessment and Demographic Studies in March 1979, our local hearing impaired and deaf population is as follows: Clinton County - 600, Essex County - 200, Franklin County - 300.

Leona Salzman
Assistant Director/
Head of Outreach

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REFERENCE AND INTERLIBRARY LOAN NEWS

It's a pleasure for me to be joining the staff of C-E-F. I'm looking forward to a long and happy association with the System. Already a veteran (my first day here was October 30th), I'm impressed with both the staff here and the level of service we provide. As Head of Reference and Interlibrary Loan, I'm hoping to work with the staff here and at member libraries to improve service in a number of ways. I think there are a lot of things we can all do to accomplish the common goal of good service to our patrons.

Although I spent most of my childhood in Northern Illinois, I lived in Rhode Island for the last nine years. I started out in graduate school at the University of Rhode Island, then worked at the Providence Public Library. During my seven years there, I was a cataloger, Reference Librarian, and most recently, Head of the Catalog Department there. Although I enjoyed Rhode Island
a great deal, I've always wanted to live in the North Country (my family is originally from AuSable Forks, and I've spent many happy summers at Silver Lake). I'm pleased to be settling here, and especially pleased to be working at C-E-F.

Elizabeth S. Rogers Reference Librarian

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ACQUISITIONS NEWS

A special thanks to our volunteer, Nancy Clegg, who worked above and beyond the call of duty in putting our card catalog back in order after it came back from being bar-coded.

Carol G. Bedore Head of Acquisitions

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J E I C NEWS

The Staff of the Job and Education Information Center has been busy as usual. During October, Lee Salzman and Kathie LaBombard attended a two-day Education Information Centers Training Workshop in Syracuse. The meeting provided us with an opportunity to share with other EIC sites around the state as well as to hear knowledgeable speakers on such topics as the Occupational Outlook for the 80's and 90's (look for careers in health, computers, retail sales, and consumer durables to grow) and on the complexities of the Job Training Partnership Act (similar to CETA) which I'm still not sure I understand entirely.

Meanwhile, Brook has been successful in extending our institutional programming schedule to include Adirondack Correctional, Camp Gabriels, and Altona Correctional on a regular basis. This is in addition to our previous schedule of monthly visits to Clinton Correctional and the Federal Correctional institution in Ray Brook. In addition, Brook has also presented two resume workshops at Plattsburgh Public Library and is eager to expand her repertoire to other programs and other locations. She's getting to be a real pro.

We couldn't be as active as we have been without Judy's support. She keeps us supplied with handouts, sees that our correspondence is kept up to date, mans the center frequently, and is becoming extremely proficient at answering questions for patrons in person or on the phone. Please call us if you'd like to schedule a program or have a question we can answer.

Kathie LaBombard JEIC Librarian

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SYSTEM FILM WORKSHOP

A workshop, Focus on Films, will be held at Systems Headquarters on Thursday, December 6, 1984. This workshop is designed to help librarians plan more effective film programs for their own libraries. Discussion periods will follow the showing of films from several different categories.

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CONSULTANTS BEDORE AND HOPKINS GIVE BOOK TALK

C-E-F Staff members, Mary Hopkins and Carol Bedore gave a book talk at the Annual Meeting of the Ellenburg Community Library on October 15. About forty guests were present.

The book review session followed an interesting talk by Librarian Mary Jane Chilton on her recent trip to Egypt. Mary Jane brought back many color photographs and several other souvenirs of her trip.

Following the book reviews, punch and cookies were served.

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IN MEMORIAM

We were sorry to learn of the death of Howard Atkins, Chairman of the Schroon Lake Library Board, on October 27, 1984. We offer our sympathy to his family.

NORTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION HOSTS STORY TELLER

The Northern Adirondack Library Association held an election of officers at its Annual Meeting on October 17, 1984 at Howard Johnson's in Plattsburgh. Re-elected were: Karen Ricketson, President; Carla List, Vice President; Linda Masters, Secretary; Mary Ellen Martin, Treasurer; and Carol Bedore, Corresponding Secretary.

Immediately following the business meeting, a cocktail party and dinner was held, co-sponsored by the WCPE Television Station and the WCPE Educational Programming Committees.

Following the dinner John Robbins, producer and star of several children's educational programs, spoke to the group and showed a representative selection of his programs, including his new program, "Health Habits." Mr. Robbins is an artist-illustrator and uses his art to highlight his book talks.

Karen Ricketson
President
Northern Adirondack Library Association

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CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Saranac Lake Free Library has a wood magazine rack for sale. 54" high x 48" wide x 24" deep. Fruitwood finish. $225.00. For further information call Library Director Joyce Meagher. Phone: (518) 891-4190.

North Country Community College has several sets of encyclopedias to donate to any library in the C-E-F Library System:

- The American Peoples Encyclopedia, 19v. missing vol. 1; 1976, Excelsior Trading Corp., NY.

For further information contact Carol Bedore at C-E-F Headquarters. Phone: (518) 563-5190.

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REMINDER

THE DEADLINE FOR TRAILBLAZER NEWS
FOR THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY ISSUE
IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1985.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND
CULTURAL CENTER

The library extends a special thank you to Katie Jock, Ruth Papineau and Patricia Pitts for their generous donations to the KA RI WEN HA WI Newsletter, which is published through the Akwesasne Library.

The Museum's basketry exhibition, "Teionkwahontasen: Basketmakers of Akwesasne," is now on exhibit at the Onondaga Indian School in Onondaga for the month of October. During the month of September it was on display at the American Indian Community House in New York City. Under the direction of Peter Jemison, the exhibition's opening attendance was 200 plus.

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

The AuSable Forks Free Library mounted an extensive drive for funds in order to make possible a long overdue and long planned-for building project which will further the possible uses of the library building.

At the time of construction about 18 years ago, it was felt the library should have an exit in the west wall of the basement. In case of fire the need to evacuate the building in the quickest possible time would be urgent. There simply were not funds available then. Over the years this worrisome problem has faced the Library Board.

The general plan, including the exit, is for an area for storage in the basement plus a modest reading room on the first floor level.

The reading room would allow much needed wall space, to display the pictures and other interesting data which has come to the library over the years. It could also be used for craft and art displays and, most of all, it would provide a quiet atmosphere for people to study or just plain enjoy reading. This room would be modest in size and cost - a small cultural center for the town.

Preliminary plans by an architect are attractive and very workable.

The present building was made possible, through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Chahoon, and later improved by monies from Mrs. Agnes LeBlond and Mrs. Gert-rude Olsen. The library also counts among its benefactors many local people.
The Library's book committee (which renders a valuable service) is composed of the following faithful members: Priscilla Belmore, Jo Buresh, Ted Falces, Dr. Post, Ethel Manning, and the Librarian, Kathy Endersbee.

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Story hour, along with the school, started this Fall. The two leaders of this program are Connie Main and Evelyn Marks. The library is very much indebted to them.

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KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

The Keeseville Library has just completed a very successful fund drive.

The library has also recently received $1500 from the Lois Lenski Covey Foundation. These grants funded by royalties from the late Lois Lenski's books for children, are available for small libraries which need financial help in building up their children's book collection.

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LAKE PLACID PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library's Centennial Fund Drive continues to progress, with gifts and donations still being sought. The raffle of the handcarved AuSable Brown Trout donated by R.J. Hague was won by Michael Blair of Lake Placid.

Joseph von Tury has also given the library table lamps. Mr. von Tury is a renowned ceramicist and longtime resident of Lake Placid. One lamp is of a pebbly texture and varicolored, the other is smooth surfaced and butterscotch toned. Both are outstanding examples of very fine ceramic ware.

The work on the updated history of the library is moving along well, with Peter Francis, Jr., assisting in compilation and writing. It is the wish of the Board to complete this by the end of the Centennial Year.

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The board of trustees of the lake Placid Public Library has appointed Gregory L. Peacock of Lake Placid to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of longtime trustee and past president, Mrs. Henry Gelles.

The resignation was accepted with regret. "Mrs. Gelles has served the Library and the community with dedication and great care," said Board President Edith Madden.

"We are indebted to her and will miss her keen sense of perception and knowledge, but we understand and appreciate her desire to pursue more freely her own plans for travel and time with her family."

Mr. Peacock is a native of Lake Placid, a graduate of Lake Placid Central School and Georgetown University. He is the owner and operator of Log Cabin Antiques. In taking a place on the Library Board he continues a family tradition established at the founding of the library in 1884.

His great-great grandfather, William Peacock, was the first elected Treasurer of the North Elba Library Association. Mr. Peacock will serve until the annual meeting in June, when elections will be held for the remaining three years of Mrs. Gelles' term.

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PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Children's Librarian Karen Ricketson reports:

There are many special holiday programs planned for the month of December in the children's department of the Plattsburgh Public Library.
The month starts with a Spanish Christmas Story Time on December 6th. This story time is complete with songs, fingerplays and a flannel board story about a Poinsettia, 'The Christmas Flower.' The 45 minute program winds up with the breaking of a Piñata for all to enjoy.

Next, on December 13th, a Santa celebration will take place. Complete with a visit from Mr. Claus himself!

On December 20th we will be celebrating Hanukkah during Story Time. Rabbi Liebowitz will be sharing with us traditional Hanukkah games, songs and stories. He does an excellent job with pre-school children. The library is very lucky to have such a special person volunteering his time.

The traditional Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 22nd. The children will make Christmas tree decorations and then trim the tree. There will also be refreshments and a Sweet Adelines quartet will lead us in Christmas Carols.

On the morning of the 22nd from 11 - 12:00 Christmas movies will be shown all of which were borrowed from the C-E-F film library.

And to round out the month on December 27th the Story Time theme will be James Stevenson's book The Night After Christmas. Where do all those old toys go to?

Happy Holidays to all!

The Friends of the Plattsburgh Public Library had a very successful "Wine & Cheese with the author" program November 14th. There were 38 people in attendance.

Ken Lawless, an author, humorist, and PSUC teacher, was the guest speaker for the evening. His topic for the evening was entitled "Confessions of a Bibliophiliac."

And a lover of books he certainly is. His knowledge of literature is very impressive!

Mr. Lawless presented a slide show on famous authors, such as, Robert Louis Stevenson and Stephen Crane and their tie-in to the Adirondack region. The slide show also included pictures and humorous commentary on several people influencing these famous author's lives. And there were of course, slides on historic landmarks of the area which were connected with the authors under discussion.

It was an enjoyable evening for all who attended; Mr. Lawless is an excellent speaker with a great sense of humor!

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

Charles Antonucci of Saranac Lake and David Petty of Lake Clear have been elected to the Saranac Lake Free Library's Board of Directors.

Antonucci is the President of the Saranac Lake Federal Savings and Loan; Petty is President of North Country Community College.

They replace Henry Parnass and James LaPan who have retired from the board.

The new board members were selected at the 77th annual meeting of the library in October.

The Library has nearly reached its 1984 Membership Campaign goal of $15,000!

WILMINGTON E.M. COOPER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

At a special meeting of the board of trustees of the Wilmington E.M.
Cooper Memorial Library, Mrs. Andrea Lawrence was appointed librarian and Mrs. Judy Siegrist was named assistant librarian. Both have worked long hours as volunteers at the Library. Both are Wilmington residents. After working five years as a volunteer librarian, Adeline F. Jaques will devote more time to her duties as library president and will work to establish a book store to help support the library.

There will be something special each evening: games, book reviews, discussions about local history, getting acquainted with newcomers in town, and most of all fun.

The Board of Trustees of the Library wishes to express its appreciation for the memorial donations by the family of Barbara Scsigulinsky.

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Starting in December, the library will be open the first and third Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m.

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