FAT CHANCE

Spring is the time to go gung-ho on all sorts of constructive projects. Longer days and melting snow give us that necessary shot in the arm which enables us to tackle all sorts of hard work with zeal. This type of ambition usually lasts until the first or second week of June (tops!) when outdoor recreational opportunities begin to open up.

Now I am not impervious to these vernal influences myself. I've written previously about the gardening mania, for example.

This time, I'm going to talk about FAT, or, the Great Spring Shape-Up Program.

It starts with a situation just about everybody (except that fortunate few with remarkably high metabolic rates) has experienced. Sometime in February or March you try on an article of clothing you haven't worn for a few months. There are also other cruel moments of reckoning, such as being weighed at the doctor's office. Whatever the means of discovery, we have found that the winter months of semi-hibernation and eating have taken their toll.

The first step is to go into an absolute panic, followed by disbelief. You tell yourself that the dry cleaner probably shrunk the offending item of apparel. Trying on some other clothes usually shoots that theory, because it almost always turns out that none of them fit.

If a scale is the bearer of unwelcome tidings, the first ploy is to question its accuracy. The next is to strip down to the buff for a weigh-in (employing another somewhat shaky theory that the average outfit of clothing weighs ten or fifteen pounds). Other popular coping tactics include moving the scale around on the floor, standing on one foot or blaming water retention (which we all know is not real fat).

We are now halfway to being forced into an admission that we have gained weight, but there are still a few more tricks left. We say we have big bones or we're probably just soft from lack of exercise. The late comedienne, Totie Fields, had the best explanation. She decided it wasn't that she was too fat; she just wasn't tall enough.

The next major stage is actually contemplating the awful possibility that something will have to be done about the fat and this is a very painful step.
At this time, I like to reflect upon the unfairness of life. For example, I have a skinny teenage son who, if not prevented, has been known to empty a box of dry cereal into a large mixing bowl and douse it with at least a quart of milk. This, mind you, is a quick snack. To add insult to injury, he will then pick up the sugar bowl and dump in another 800 or 900 calories. If I could afford to ingest that many calories, I am mature enough to expend them on something worthwhile, such as German chocolate cake.

O.K., after a few days of railing against fate, our genes etc., it’s time to get down to business. We know, ahead of time, that this is not going to be fun. I have been dieting off and on for over twenty years and I am ready to swear that if it isn’t fattening, it’s not worth eating.

What we can do to enliven this dreary state of affairs is to try novel approaches to the problem. Doing this helps relieve the boredom of the inevitable—using less calories. Here you should turn to your library.

Yep, we are talking about the very same people who gave you those marvelous cookbooks with the color photographs of various delicacies. Well, the C-E-F Library System also possesses a dazzling array of diet and exercise books. I could not possibly enumerate or evaluate them separately here. I can only give you an idea of the variety which is available. There is everything including low-fat, low-carbohydrate diets to those stressing high-fiber and even high-pineapple.

Then there are the exercise books—all kinds of exercise books—which will reveal new dimensions in physical pain. We have them all—from jogging and yoga to that current best-seller, Jane Fonda’s Workout Book (although I personally feel that I have as much chance of looking like Jane Fonda as I do of finding that I bought the winning Irish Sweepstakes ticket).

To sum it all up, I’m confident that you will be able to devise a clever regimen to get those extra pounds off in time to begin the whole cycle over again with strawberry shortcake and corn-on-the-cob. If not, the library also has books which teach us that fat can be beautiful. Or, an alternate solution to the entire fat problem is to say, "So, I’m fat. Who cares?" and pick up a good mystery.

Mary Shaw Hopkins
Editor

P.S. Next year, at this time, I may tackle Spring Cleaning.

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

FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK

On Library Day, March 12th, librarians and trustees from all over New York State flocked to Albany to thank legislators and the Governor for the 1984 Omnibus Bill. We really do appreciate this fine piece of legislation.

We also mentioned the need for continued and increased funding for our public libraries and library systems and an urgent need to address two particular needs. Last year the Education Information Centers (EIC) Bill was passed, which supports 7 EIC programs helping the unemployed and career seekers. Governor Cuomo did not include this $400,000 in his budget for 1985. It is terribly important that this funding be restored.
Last year the Legislature provided some $3 million for public library construction. This matching aid was used by many public libraries to improve their buildings. We are still in need of funds for this purpose and urge consideration of the $10 million request by NYLA and NYSALB. Last year’s experience has shown that these types of funds are matched more than 50% by local communities, which is a stimulus to the local construction industry and usually precedes a hefty increase in use of the expanded library.

We urge support for these proposals.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

NO TRUSTEE WORKSHOP

Last month we announced a Trustee Workshop grant for 1985 for C-E-F. We were in error. The LSCA funds could not be stretched enough to cover this grant. We will apply for this type of workshop again if LSCA funds are available.

Meanwhile, mark your calendars for September 20-21, 1985, when the Library Trustee Institute will take place in Albany.

Stanley A. Ransom

CHEERFUL THOUGHTS FOR MARCH

The clock of life is wound but once
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop
At late or early hour.
Now is the only time you own—
Live, love and toil with a will,
Place no faith in "tomorrow"
For the clock may then be still.

from Chateaugay record
March 20, 1953

Stanley A. Ransom

HELP WANTED

According to Lawrence J. Peter, a help-wanted column carried this ad:
"Person to work on nuclear fissionable isotope molecular reactive counters and three phase cyclotronic uranium photosynthesizers. No experience necessary."

Stanley A. Ransom
"BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE"

Ransom's Rollers, the C-E-F bowling team, contributed $267.85 for the benefit of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Clinton County as part of the "Bowl for Kids' Sake" program on St. Patrick's Day. Team scores and sponsor contributions were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team members</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Sponsor Contributions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Lodge</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>$22.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary Burdo</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>53.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marilyn Blanchard</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>36.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lee Salzman</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>106.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stan Ransom</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>48.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$267.85

We want to thank the team, the staff and the sponsors for their support in this worthwhile program.

Stanley A. Ransom

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

CHAIN SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM

The New York State Legislature has provided funding through Chapter 348 of the New York State Law of 1984 to establish School Library Systems, interlibrary networks of school libraries throughout the state. These networks will encourage and promote the sharing of materials and ideas, and improve communications among school libraries.

Clinton-Essex-Warren-Washington BOCES and Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES will apply for grants of $65,000 each per year to establish a School Library System in each of the BOCES areas. The School Library System, CHAIN (Champlain-Adirondack Interlibrary Network), which links the two BOCES districts for sharing and services, will become operational July 1, 1985, with the initial grants to be effective for three years. The System will employ a full-time System Coordinator for each BOCES District.

A primary focus of the School Library System, CHAIN, will be the establishment of a machine-readable data base, which will include bibliographies materials from all of the participating school libraries. CHAIN also has plans to prepare a revised directory of school librarians, and an update of the periodicals union list; to establish cooperative collection development; to publish a monthly newsletter and to carry on other promotional activities to highlight school libraries and library-related activities.
CHAIN will be able to work with the C-E-F Library System and the North Country References and Research Resources Council. This will not only improve services to all members and participants but gives the SLS access to the expertise and resources of the public and academic ILL networks. Stanley Ransom, Director of C-E-F, and Richard Kimball, Director of North Country 3 R's, serve on the advisory council of CHAIN.

With this final step in organizing school libraries, the State will have provided all library users in school, public, academic and special libraries with a complete network for information and resource-sharing in the state.

Glenda Rowe and Jeanette Hotchkiss
CHAIN Planning Coordinators

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7th ANNUAL NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY CLERICAL CONFERENCE

The Feinberg Library, State University of New York at Plattsburgh, will be hosting the 7th Annual New York State Library Clerical Conference on May 31, 1985.

Tentative workshops are:

1. Librarian/Support staff separations and friction
2. OCLC
3. Parents & Day Care
4. C.S.E.A.
5. Women & Management (including survey on comparable worth)
6. NYS Human Resources Development Program
7. Micro Systems demonstrations
8. Stress and conflict in the work place
9. Streamlining operations in public libraries

For further information Contact: Mrs. Judy Sorrell
Acquisitions Dept.
Feinberg Library
* SUNY Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Phone: (518) 564-3180
Mary Leggett, a trustee of the C-E-F Library System, is a member of the Town of Plattsburgh Bicentennial Committee. She has written a pageant covering 200 years of the history of the Town which will be produced by Howard Taylor and narrated by Ron Wood. The pageant will be a part of the May Bicentennial Celebration, held on the evenings of May 24 and 25 at the Clinton County Fairgrounds. A copy of the pageant will be sealed in the Time Capsule in the Town Hall at the end of the Bicentennial.

Mary Fogarty and Robert Robare are chairmen of the Bicentennial Committee.

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Mary is also the editor of a newsletter for the Town of Plattsburgh. This Quarterly Bulletin is designed to keep town taxpayers and residents informed of current town events, programs and proposed Town projects. And, Mary adds, she hopes a by-product of the newsletter will be to augment awareness of Town government and to encourage citizen participation.

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TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

May 24-26, 1985

CLINTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MASTER OF CEREMONIES - Martin Mannix, Jr.

FRIDAY, May 24, 1985

6:00 P.M.

OPENING CEREMONIES - Plattsburgh AFB Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM - Lita Kelly

INVOCATION - Rev. L. William Gordon, Pastor
St. Alexander's Church, Morrisonville

WELCOME - Arthur L. LeFevre, Town of Plattsburgh Supervisor

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION
PRESENTATION OF TOWN OF HUNTINGTON FLAG
PRESENTATION OF MEDALS
Rufus Langhans, Town of Huntington Historian

PRESENTATION OF BICENTENNIAL FLAG to the Town of Huntington
Arthur L. LeFevre, Supervisor

PRESENTATION OF BICENTENNIAL WALL HANGING to the Town
of Plattsburgh - Marielle LeFevre, Kay Gagnier
and Rose Duquette

7:00 P.M.

DEMONSTRATION TOWN OF HUNTINGTON MILITIA
followed by
PAGEANT - Front of Grandstand
8:30 P.M. to Midnight

SATURDAY, May 25, 1985

11:00 A.M. BICENTENNIAL PARADE - Route: Town Hall, Banker & Tom Miller Roads to Brookside Rd. to Rte. 22B to Clinton County Fairgrounds

AWARDING OF TROPHIES

12:00 Noon TOWN OF HUNTINGTON MILITIA DEMONSTRATIONS - These will be taking place at various times throughout the day

12:00 Noon to 7:30 P.M. ARTIFACTS DISPLAY

12:00 Noon TUG O'WAR, PENNY PITCH, NON-STRUCTURED GAMES

1:00 P.M. HORSESHOES, MARBLE TOURNAMENT

1:30 P.M. WOODSMAN'S CONTEST

2:00 P.M. SPELLING BEE
DRAFT HORSE EXHIBITION

3:00 P.M. JUDGING OF BEARDS
FOOT RACE

7:00 P.M. TOWN OF HUNTINGTON MILITIA DEMONSTRATION followed by PAGEANT - Front of Grandstand

9:00 P.M. FIREWORKS

9:30 P.M. to Midnight HOWDOWN

SUNDAY, May 26, 1985

1:00 P.M. ECUMENICAL SERVICE - Rev. L. William Gordon, Coordinator Pastor, St. Alexander's Church, Assisted by Area Clergy

Morrisonville

CLOSING CEREMONIES - Plattsburgh AFB Color Guard

2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. OPEN HOUSE and DEDICATION OF BICENTENNIAL TIME CAPSULE, Town Hall, Banker & Tom Miller Rds.

4:15 P.M. BEARDS MAY BE SHAVED OFF

AN AWARD WILL BE GIVEN TO THE OLDEST RESIDENT IN AGE IN THE TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH AND TO THE COUPLE IN THE TOWN WHO HAS BEEN MARRIED THE LONGEST

FOOD & BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE
MEMBER LIBRARY PROFILE IX: THE CHAMPLAIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Editor's Note: I would like to thank Mrs. Harold (Ruth) Smith, Librarian at Champlain Memorial, and Mrs. Eugene Dresser, who has been President of the Champlain Board of Trustees for over twenty-five years, for the several hours they spent with Carol Bedore and me explaining the library's history. Ruth also assembled a pile of old library records for me which have been very helpful in writing this article.

I have taken the early history of the library from a letter written by the original President of the Board of Trustees, Blandine S. Bredenberg. For background material on the history of the village of Champlain, I have consulted History of Clinton and Franklin Counties, New York by Duane H. Hurd.

I am also grateful to Ruth for setting up an interview for us with Sam Racicot, a retired bootlegger, who was able to fill us in on some living history of the Champlain area, especially the Prohibition years. The Volstead Act of 1919, which enforced the prohibition of the manufacture, sale and transportation of alcoholic beverages, opened up new and illicit careers to young men in the North Country and resulted in one of the most colorful periods in its history. Mr. Racicot is an articulate raconteur and I also wish to thank him for graciously telling us his stories.

Champlain is another of our area's border towns. The U.S. - Canadian border is approximately a mile away from downtown Champlain and this border crossing is one of the busiest in the nation. Although Champlain itself is a small village, one can often see lines of cars waiting to go through Customs. Ruth Smith told us that, from certain vantage points at night, the bright lights of Montreal, "the Paris of North America," can be seen in the distance.

Naturally, the village's location has had a tremendous effect upon its history even from the beginning.

According to Hurd's history, Pliny Moore, a drummer boy with the American Army during the Revolution, first saw the site of Champlain during the retreat from Canada in 1776-77. He vowed to return and later did become the town's first permanent settler.

The library was not started until 1923. It was an association or pay library; one dollar in dues entitled a member to borrow books for one year.

This library was a joint venture of the Champlain Literary Club and the St. Cecelia Club, a longstanding music club, which had obtained a room in a local bank to be used as a library.

The library remained in this building for several decades. One bank failed during the Great Depression and another took over the building, but the library remained. During Prohibition, by the way, there had been some wild chases down Oak Street, where the bank building is situated.

The two clubs together formed the first library association. Each club contributed $25 for the treasury and together they launched a fund-raising campaign. The library became a public library and was granted its State Charter in 1925; at this point it was eligible to receive State Aid.

The village contributed some money too—$50 was contributed in the beginning and the figure was upped to $75 in 1929. The library relied on many fund-raising schemes, including monthly silver teas
at the library which earned about $40 profit per year. These teas required a great deal of effort, as even the water had to be transported to the library. Lack of running water in the library was a problem for several years. The library occupied different rooms during its stay at the bank building; some had access to running water and some did not.

The first Board of Trustees included: Mrs. John Crook, Mrs. Walter H. Doolittle, Miss Clara White, Mr. Frank Whiteside and Mrs. Bredenberg. The first librarian and book committee chairman was Miss Clara White, who was trained by the City Librarian of Plattsburgh, a Miss Hale. The other association members set up a schedule by which they took turns working at the library, in order to ease the burden on Miss White. Mrs. Bredenberg notes in her letter, "And try and find a librarian in an afternoon when there was to be a bridge party."

Elsa Washburn later became the first paid librarian at $50 per annum. She was followed by Sybil Scriver, Alma Hawkes and Malcolm McClellan (who served the library over 20 years beginning in 1935). Malcolm McClellan, by the way, was a descendant of Pliny Moore.

The library was eventually relocated to the home of Mrs. David Harrison, who was then librarian, and remained there for twelve years.

Ruth Smith took over in 1969—and it was supposed to have been on a temporary basis! This was also the year in which construction of the present library building was begun.

The Northeastern Clinton Central School sold the library a piece of land adjacent to the school building for one dollar. The largest portion of the funds for the new library ($42,000) was a gift from Mrs. Florence Atwood, in memory of her husband, Arthur and her sons, John and Brooks. Mrs. Atwood also donated carpeting, furniture and the lovely embroidered maps now located behind the main desk. The village gave $10,000 and Mrs. Helen Allan contributed $2,000 for a children's area. Even now, it should be added, the yearly budget of the library is only about $8,000 and it is still very dependent on the generosity of the public.

The new library was dedicated in 1971. Below is a reproduction of the program distributed for the occasion:

**DEDICATION OF THE CHAMPLAIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

**Master of Ceremonies**
David Southwick

** Invocation**
Rev. John Hunt

**Welcome**
Mrs. Eugene Dennis
President, Board of Trustees

**Address**
Anthony Verchin
Dame, Champlain Loan-Franklin Library System

**Special Presentations**
Daniel E. Maker
Ernie

** Benediction**
Rev. Lloyd S. Van Norden

Sunday, July 11, 1971

It is indeed a library to be proud of. Sunlight pours in through the large skylights and windows. Terra cotta and cream walls blend nicely with the reddish tones of wooden beams and the blue-green of the carpets. Outside, by the front entrance, is a large display window (which is changed monthly). This month it contains Ruth Smith's collection of antique hair receivers (Ruth also owns an antique shop), but there have been a great variety of displays, including local handicrafts and hobbies.

Of course, the final measure of a library is its librarian and Ruth Smith passes that test with flying colors. Loquacious and witty, she is also extremely knowledgeable. A patron stopped by during our visit and Ruth immediately ticked off the authors the lady liked and disliked, as she helped her look through the books. Pleasant surroundings are great, but it is this type of service—which so many North Country librarians provide—which has gained the loyalty of local residents and enabled libraries such as Champlain's to weather hard times.

Mary S. Hopkins
SAM RACICOT AND THE WILD DAYS OF PROHIBITION

Sam Racicot (we locals pronounce this French name "Rascoe") was born in the first year of this century. He has lived through a lot of history and a lot of danger, but, somehow, he often seems younger than his eighty-five years. I think the answer to this lies in his manner; he's been up and he's been down, but his joie de vivre is obvious.

Our interview started out with an air of polite patience on his part. As one of the last living members of the bootlegging fraternity, he's been interviewed many times and his reminiscences are included in Allan Everest's book, Rum Across The Border. As Dr. Everest has covered the historical facts concerning the Prohibition era in the North Country so well, I thought I would concentrate more on the feeling or climate of that time and once Mr. Racicot warmed to the subject, he certainly gave me that.

Sam Racicot spent his early years in Plattsburgh. He remembers a city of trolley cars and band concerts in the park.

His early interest was music. He played the violin in the high school and other local orchestras, one of which played the background score to a production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" before live entertainments were replaced by movies. He also played at dances; the one-step, two-step and the waltz were popular then.

Ironically, Sam Racicot, the well-known bootlegger, did not touch alcohol until he was twenty-one because he had vowed to his father and to himself that he would not. He finally did taste whiskey, a jolting experience, and by that time it was illegal. He later fell in with some local entrepreneurs who introduced him to his outlaw trade and he moved up north to Rouses Point, closer to the border (the alcohol was smuggled in from Montreal and other Quebec towns along the border, such as Lacolle) and the fun began.

I asked Mr. Racicot if he got into the business for the money or for the adventure. The answer, I think, was both. He was out of high school and really uncertain about what to do with his life. As a musician, he could expect to earn six to ten dollars per job at the most, and that was good money in the twenties. He met some bootleggers, took a trip with them, and was hooked.

Sometimes a trip to New York and back would bring him two or three thousand dollars, but he said, "It cost me that much money to have a good time later. I spent every damned nickel I made."

I jokingly remarked, "You must have had some awfully good times."

He chuckled and said, "Yeah."

It must be remembered that probably the majority of North Country residents of that time didn't look on bootleggers as common criminals. Prohibition was felt to be unfair and many of the locals, who weren't bootleggers themselves, aided and abetted the ones who actually ran the liquor.

For example, Sam would call up the local telephone operator and, after a few minutes of conversation add, "I think I'll go to Plattsburgh tonight."

She would reply, "It's raining you know. Why don't you wait until it gets better."

That way he knew he shouldn't make a run that night.

Or, a bootlegger's sweetheart would waylay a Customs officer on the lookout with "a little partial love affair."
Champlain Memorial Library

Old Bank Building

The original library occupied rooms in this building.
THE LIBRARY'S MAIN READING AREA.

RUTH SMITH'S OFFICE.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE LIBRARY - THE FRONT ENTRANCE.

THE CHILDREN'S READING AREA.

Photos by Carol G. Bedore
The bootleggers and the officers were often on speaking, even friendly, terms—but there was also no doubt between them that they were operating on different sides of the law. There were frequent high speed chases along the many back roads across the border. Sam would find bullet holes in his car and not know on which particular chase he had been hit.

One of the bootleggers' most important transfer and business stops was the Meridian, a Canadian hotel and night club, just across the border from Champlain. This was also the place to go for the North Country young set. Sam remembers a day he and his boys ducked under the tables (to avoid flying bullets) when a New York City gang tried to take over.

One of the ways the bootleggers found to relax was a camp located by a bay on Lake Champlain. They partied there with girls from Montreal who could be "easily talked into romance."

Eventually things got hot with the law for Sam, so he took off for Montreal. By then, Sam could play the trumpet and sax, as well as the violin, and he quickly found a job as a dance band leader at the newly opened Club Royale on St. Catherine Street. He was well paid and, once again, the good times rolled. He liked the ladies and I'm sure (from his courtly charm which is evident to this day) that they liked him too.

Sam spent four years in Montreal and finally returned to the States when Prohibition was repealed. He arrived in time for the Depression, but luckily for him, there was still a demand for dance bands as people tried to forget their troubles.

Sam went on to other adventures. Once one has been a high roller, it's difficult to live with dull routine, I think. In his presence, I certainly felt myself to be a stodgy civil servant by comparison. Sam summed his life up by saying, "I had a good time. My life has been a series of funny things—good things."

Mary S. Hopkins

Editor's Note: One of the stories about bootlegging, which Sam Racicot recounted to us, is a personal favorite of C-E-F Director Stanley Ransom and can also be found in Rum Across The Border. The bootleggers sometimes smuggled loads south by boat on Lake Champlain; they devised a clever ruse for dumping the whiskey, when pursued by the law, and retrieving it when the coast was clear.

Sam Racicot developed his plans after carefully discussing certain scientific principles with Professor Hudson of the Plattsburgh Normal School.

Without further ado, Stan Ransom's song describes the details of the bootleggers' trick.
IN PROHIBITION DAYS

'Twas back in Prohibition days,
An era known to some.
Rum runners came through Plattsburgh
To Canada for rum,
And when they'd filled their Model A's
They'd cross the line at night.
But often at the border,
They'd run into a fight.

Sometimes the U.S. agents
Would be waiting on the road,
To stop and search the autos,
And confiscate the load.
And often rival smugglers
Would try to cramp their style,
And wait for them in ambush,
Or chase them many a mile.

These smugglers decided then
The water route to take,
And to escape detection
By sailing down the Lake.
When customs agents followed them
And called for them to halt,
They'd throw the whiskey overboard
Attached to blocks of salt.

The salt would make the whiskey sink
And leave an empty boat,
But when the salt had melted,
Up popped a wooden float.
This marker searched for later
In another day to two
Would give them back their whiskey
When all pursuit was through.

To many of these smugglers
It was all a merry lark,
But it brought to many others
Death, or danger in the dark.
For some, these were exciting days,
With many a jolly tale,
But some were killed or wounded,
Or suffered years in jail.

Stanley A. Ransom
HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

OUTREACH - RURAL HEALTH NEWS

Rural Health has had a busy year. Eight bibliographies have been distributed covering the topics of cancer, rheumatic diseases, incest and domestic violence, pregnancy, smoking and respiratory diseases, stress, hypertension and heart disease, and nutrition. As more agencies become aware of the range of services available through our grant, the greater number of requests for books, bibliographies, pamphlets, and brochures we receive.

In October, we cooperated with our local Planned Parenthood office in observance of National Family Sexuality Education Month. A resource list developed by the System was combined with a display designed by Planned Parenthood. These were then distributed to member libraries wishing to receive them. More recently, we joined the Clinton County Public Health Department in celebrating Health Education Week (February, 1985). C-E-F shared a display, providing bibliographies and pamphlets for distribution to the public.

One objective of our grant has been to build awareness on the part of agencies and the general public of the role that libraries can serve in the provision of health information. An initial step in accomplishing this objective was to select an advisory committee to provide suggestions for the purchase of books to be placed in health information kits which would then be distributed throughout the three counties. A total of 31 4-book kits were purchased providing reference information on a broad range of health issues. Health kit questionnaires were provided with each kit to help evaluate the usefulness of these resources. Response has been encouraging with some patrons voicing their intention of purchasing some of the resources for home use.

Future plans include our System's participation, as a member of a County-wide "Coalition for Families and Children," in activities promoting public awareness of child abuse in general and specifically in plans for observing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Marge Wachtmeister
Rural Health

STAFF CHANGES

Vivian Papson has left C-E-F to head the Upward Bound program. While we miss Vivian, we know she will be extremely successful in her new position. Vivian's place in the OCLC Retrospective Conversion project has been filled by Karen Favaro.

We are also pleased to welcome Barbara Deyo to our ranks. Barbara is the new typist in our Outreach department.

REMINDER

THE DEADLINE FOR THE TRAILBLAZER NEWS FOR THE MAY/JUNE ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1985
PUBLIC RELATIONS WORKSHOPS

We want to remind everyone of our Public Relations workshop series - Communicating The Library Message. These workshops will be held at the Howard Johnson's Conference Center in Lake Placid.

The workshops are sponsored by the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System and the North Country Library System through a federal LSCA Title I grant from the New York State Library and are open to library staff, trustees, volunteers and members of friends groups.

Alice Norton, a public relations consultant to libraries (nationwide), is the coordinator of the series.

The first workshop on Wednesday, April 3, features Allen Hannaford, CTM, a member of Toastmasters International, Uncle Sam Chapter. He will lead the program "Speak Up For Your Library," dealing with speaking skills for those concerned with libraries.

The second workshop in the series, "The Printed Word", will be held on Wednesday, May 15, and the third, "Signs, Posters and Displays," on Wednesday, August 21.

Assistant Director Leona Salzman Notes:

The following are some of the examples of the Reference books that have been discarded by the library system and are available to member libraries on our swap shelf:

Information Please Almanac
Private Independent Schools
Canadian Almanac and Directory
The Britannica Encyclopedia of American Art
Who's Who in America?
Europa Yearbook
Early American Automobiles
Physicians Desk Reference
Children's Books in Print
Peterson's Graduate & Professional Programs

If interested, contact Lee at Headquarters. Phone (518) 563-5190

Also available until July 1, 1985, are back issues of Science, years 1962-1965

1967-1979

If interested contact: Shari Hathaway
ASRC - Whiteface Mt.
Wilmington, NY

(518) 946-7190

-14-
RECENT BOOKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

BRIEFLY TOLD by Allan S. Everest. Clinton County Historical Association, 1984. $6.95 Paper.

It’s 1985—a bicentennial celebration year for the Plattsburgh area! It was on April 4, 1785, that the town of Plattsburgh was created by a special act of the legislature. That fact and many more are the basis of Dr. Allan S. Everest’s book Briefly Told. It is a historical tour that takes the reader from that time to the present. The people and events that shaped us are all there. Some of them I remember; the recent ones, of course. Also, reading the book will allow you to answer the following Plattsburgh trivia questions.

1. What brick church was first located on the site of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library?

2. Who was hanged in 1825 for infanticide?

3. What car turned the area into "Detroit in Plattsburgh"?

4. Where was "Gallows Hill" located?

5. What U.S. president arrived on horseback and spent several days at Green’s Inn?

If you have answered all the above questions correctly, you may stand and shout "Happy 200th Birthday Plattsburgh". For those who did not answer correctly, I suggest they read Briefly Told. I am sure they will enjoy it as much as I did.

Carol G. Bedore
Head, Acquisitions

Answers
1. Universalist Fellowship
2. Peggy Facto
3. Lozier
4. Mount Assumption Institute
5. Monroe


This is the story of a sailboat journey which began at Stockholm, Wisconsin (near the source of the Mississippi) and ended in Florida. Two of the boat’s crew were cousins of Laura Ingalls Wilder (of Little House on the Prairie fame) and another, Perley Wilder, was a brother of Laura’s husband, Almanzo. This slim volume is based on the log of that journey which was preserved by Perley and, later, by his descendants.

Shortly after the events of this book took place, Laura and Almanzo Wilder also settled in Florida. It is known that Laura Ingalls Wilder was shown a copy of the log by Perley’s daughter for her consideration as material for a book.

This book is filled with many good black and white photographs, a map and genealogical charts. It is a must for area libraries, as Almanzo and Perley were originally from Burke in Franklin County, New York.
It should be noted that Dorothy Smith (whom we interviewed in the July, 1983 issue of the Trailblazer, while doing a story on the fiftieth Anniversary of Laura Ingalls Wilder's Farmer Boy) is also a relative of Almanzo Wilder; her grandmother and Almanzo were cousins. Dorothy has been very active in the preservation of the Wilder's North Country legacy.

Mary S. Hopkins

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

The library wishes to thank several people for their donations to the Kariwenhawi Newsletter: Selena and Eddie Smoke, Margie and Leonard Beaubien, John Cook, Jessie Diebow, Gil and Helen White and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Piskor.

The library is also grateful to Mr. Michael Taracka of Connecticut for his generous donations in memory of his wife, Pearl Cook Taracka.

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The Akwesasne Library wishes to thank Charlene Cole, Vanessa Smoke, Joyce Jock, and Helen White for helping to assemble the Kariwenhawi Newsletter in February.

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Wendy Rose, renowned poet and artist, read a selection from her poetry at the Akwesasne Library on January 9th.

Wendy is a Hopi poet, who is well-known for such works as "When the Hopi Hit New York."

The event was sponsored by the Akwesasne Museum.

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SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

"Recent Works," an exhibition of 30 watercolors and photographs by Kenneth Wiley, Saranac Lake, opened in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library in February.

Mr. Wiley is Professor of Art at North Country Community College where he teaches a variety of courses, including watercolor, photography, sculpture, pottery, and Art and Music in the Western World.

Mr. Wiley has participated in many local shows, and in the Adirondack Art Association's Summer Gallery in Essex. In 1982 and 1983, he received an Award of Merit in the North Country Juried Art Show at the Lake Placid Center for the Arts.

In 1983 "Main Street, Roslyn, N.Y.," a watercolor featured in the current library show, was accepted for the 23rd Annual Exhibition of the National Watercolor Society at Laguna Beach Museum of Art in California. This painting was also selected for the Tenth Adirondack Regional at the Hyde Museum in Glen Falls in 1984. Last summer ten Wiley photographs were shown in the I Love New York Photography Show at SUNY Plattsburgh.

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"Children's Stories on Film" was presented on February 16, in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library.

Film versions of famous children's stories included "Winnie the Pooh and Tigger Too," "Curious George Goes to the Hospital," and "Snowman."
Popcorn was served. The free program was sponsored by the Library's staff and Programs Committee. Mr. Raymond Poirier assisted with the projection of the films.

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A film trip through the Adirondacks was presented on February 21 in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library.

The film "The Adirondacks—The Land Nobody Knows," led the audience on a remarkable photographic journey which included a walk through Adirondack forests among clear-running brooks and wild animals.

This award-winning documentary is a Forest Preserve Centennial Education Project made available by the Adirondack Research Center at Union College.

Mr. Greenleaf Chase, who appears in the film, and Mr. Fred Sullivan, who shot several scenes, were on hand to tell several anecdotes about how the film was made and who was involved in the project.

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The Saranac Lake Free Library has received $6,500 from the State Education Department and used the dollars for energy conservation projects in its $200,000 expansion and renovation plan.

Library Board President Mrs. Janet Decker said a section of the roof in the main reading room was repaired and ceiling insulation was added in what is now the children's section and main reading room of the library.

The library matched the $6,500 with an identical sum raised locally in completing the projects.

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GOFF–NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY,
TUPPER LAKE

Librarian Chalice Dechene reports: The Board of Trustees of Goff–Nelson Memorial Library accepted the resignation of John Stock at a recently-held meeting. Mr. Stock has been a member of the Library Board since 1965. He was named Vice-President of the Board in 1972 and held that position until being named President in 1980. He was succeeded as President by Ronald Belleville. Mr. Stock retired from Litchfield Park, and now spends his winter in Florida. It is chiefly for this reason that he is resigning, feeling that he cannot do justice to the job, being absent for several months. His resignation was accepted with regret, and with expressions of thanks and best wishes.

Margaret Gillis was appointed by the Board to fill out Mr. Stock's term. Mrs. Gillis has been a member of the library for many years, and has been active in volunteer work. She attended her first Board meeting in February, and was welcomed as the library's newest trustee.

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We have had our usual busy winter, with a well-rounded representation of the community: adults and children reading fiction and non-fiction. Our display cases have been filled with many interesting subjects—crafts such as fungi art and candy making, and hobbies like Hummel collections. We are once again featuring our "mini-art" show in which a different artist's work is displayed every month. We also have an outstanding collection of photographs taken and developed by Dr. Blackmar of Upper Saranac.

The end result is to make our library an interesting and comfortable place to come to, and by all indications, we have succeed in doing just that!

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DODGE LIBRARY, WEST CHAZY

Trustee Pat Martin reports:
The Dodge Library, West Chazy has had a busy fall and winter. We are still serving as the library for the Beekmantown Central Elementary School in West Chazy. The six classes, kindergarten through fifth grade, each come in for a forty minute period every Thursday to exchange books and be instructed in library skills.

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This February, we have been presented with the Nell J.B. Sullivan Reference Collection of books for genealogical research. These books were bought with unused funds from the sale of A HISTORY OF CHAZY by Nell Sullivan and David Martin. These reference books, identified with a plate designed by Peter S. Martin, supplement those owned by the North Country Collection in the Feinberg Library and those in the Plattsburgh Public Library. This collection is available to the public during library hours or by appointment. Arrangements can be made through Mrs. Reed, librarian, (493-2491 or 493-6131) or Mr. Martin (493-3041).

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In addition to the conclusion of a successful summer reading program, Bookinham Palace, August brought a severe wind and electrical storm which damaged our electrical entrance and breaker box so severely that they had to be replaced. To replete our coffers, emptied by this and regular expenses, we are launching our annual fund drive for money and volunteer help the last two weeks in March and early April.

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WILMINGTON E. M. COOPER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

A state rehabilitation grant of $7,500 started the ball rolling on work at the Wilmington Library in January. Project plans have been prepared by Saranac Lake architect Ronald H. DeLair.

The utilization of the 1628 square feet of space will make the library functional. New fluorescent lighting will give better vision and make it easier to see the books and also will increase energy savings. Light levels will be increased to bring them into compliance with health and safety standards. New adjustable shelving will enable the library to house the books more efficiently. This rearrangement of library furnishings and shelvings will make it more efficient and attractive.

The basement will also be renovated to store many books that are available for sale.

Adeline F. Jaques is Project Manager. The Board of Trustees and the Town of Wilmington will be working with Mr. DeLair.

In June of 1985, the Town of Wilmington will celebrate a historic event—the six anniversary of the Wilmington Library. At that time, the new shelves and new lights will be installed and other necessary improvements completed. Matching of funds are a necessity, but local people have always been a mainstay, supporting the library and its programs.

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The book store is open every Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. People are still coming from the adjoining towns to buy books. To spur them on, and also residents of the town, the library has organized a $1 club; give a dollar and become a member of the library and be allowed a 10% discount on all books.

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During March, Christine Hurd, Owner of the Weighing Room Gym, donated one-third of the profits from the use of her facilities for the benefit of the library.  

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary S. Hopkins, Editor
REVISED 1985 C-E-F CALENDAR

MEETINGS, PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

JANUARY

22nd - (Tues.)  C-E-F Board Meeting  3-5 p.m.
29th - (Tues.)  NYLA Legislative Committee, Albany

FEBRUARY

4th - (Mon.)  MAC (Members Advisory Council) 9:30-12

MARCH

12th - (Tues.)  Library Legislation Day in Albany
21st - (Thurs.)  C-E-F Board Meeting  3-5 p.m.
23rd - April 13th.  John Vinton, Adirondack Storyteller, at various C-E-F Libraries

APRIL

3rd - (Wed.)  Public Relations Workshop:
              I. Speak Up For Your Library. Alice Norton, Lake Placid
14th to 20th  National Library Week
22nd - (Tues.)  Film Programming Workshop (postponed from last Nov.) 9-1
25th & 26th  PULISDO (Public Library System Director's Organization)
              Annual Conference, Ithaca (Thursday & Friday)

MAY

6th - (Mon.)  MAC Meeting.  9:30-12
7th - (Tues.)  NYLA Legislative Committee, Albany
15th - (Wed.)  Public Relations Workshop:
              II. The Printed Word. Alice Norton, Lake Placid
23rd - (Thurs.)  C-E-F Board Meeting. 3-5 p.m. at Keene Valley Library
17th - (Fri.)  North Country 3 R's Annual Meeting, Lake Placid
29th to June 1  Educational Film Library Association's Annual Conference, New York City

JUNE

18th - (Tues.)  NYLA Legislative Committee Meeting, Albany
25th - (Tues.)  C-E-F Board Meeting. 3-5 p.m. at Harris Bindery, Champlain

JULY

6th to 11th  American Library Association Annual Conference, Chicago

AUGUST

5th - (Mon.)  C-E-F Annual Meeting and C-E-F Board Meeting
21st - (Wed.)  Public Relations Workshop:
              III. Signs, Posters and Displays. Alice Norton, Lake Placid
1985 C-E-F Calendar, continued...........

SEPTEMBER

13th to 15th
16th - (Mon.)
17th - (Tues.)
20th & 21st

Adirondack Park Centennial Celebration, Lake Placid
MAC Meeting. 9:30-12
C-E-F Board Meeting. 3-5 p.m.
Library Trustee Institute, Albany (Fri. & Sat.)

OCTOBER

7th - (Mon.)
17th - (Thurs.)
29th - (Tues.)

Workshop on Library Service to the Elderly & Disabled
Black Poetry Day celebration. Speaker: Gwendolyn Brooks,
1950 Pulitzer Prize Poetry winner.
C-E-F Board Meeting. 3-5 p.m.

NOVEMBER

11th to 17th
18th - (Mon.)

Children's Book Week
MAC Meeting. 9:30-12

DECEMBER

8th to 11th
17th - (Tues.)

New York Library Association Annual Conference, NY City
C-E-F Board Meeting. 3-5 p.m.