TALKIN' TRASH

One day, not too long ago, I found out about Ernest Matthew Mickler's book, WHITE TRASH COOKING* and I was overwhelmed with relief. The country may not be going to hell in a handbasket after all.

If you're sick of yuppies, jargonese, white wine and Brie - and if you like your home fries greasy - you'll probably like this book as much as I do. Also, although Ernie Mickler is a Southerner, if your family has been North Country for a few generations (as mine has) much of the material in this nifty, spiral-bound paperback is going to be hauntingly familiar. We might be, dare I say it, Yankee White Trash.

Now, don't get offended right away. There's white trash and White Trash. Ernie will explain the difference to you in depth, but mainly, "Manners and pride separate the two."

I will have to admit that Southerners have a certain panache that we seem to lack; probably the long winters have made us somewhat dour. I think, however, that an acquaintance with hard times and a farm background form the common denominator between us up here and the Edna Raes and Skeeters who contributed their recipes to the book.

Be sure and look at the short photo section in the middle of the book. My son said that the one of the White Trash refrigerator looked just like ours. There are photos of the required White Trash cooking utensils, black cast-iron frying pans and Dutch ovens. I've never used any other kind and like good White Trash cooks, I learned early in life not to clean them too thoroughly. The linoleum patterns, the brass bed part used as a gate, the country store - if you grew up around here, especially in the days before there was a thruway or shopping malls, you'll almost weep with nostalgia. With tears in your eyes, you'll admit that yes, you set the table with jelly glasses and chipped dishes which didn't match and sure, you like to sop up your gravy with bread. You might even become bold enough to at least whisper that pie crust made with lard is the best kind.

When I was in elementary school even pizza was exotic food. I remember the first time my mother made it (there was no place to buy it in those days). It was good, but it was like no pizza I've had since, because she gave it a few down

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*Inland Book Co., 1986 ($12.95)
home touches. Now, Mother was not amused when I showed her Ernie's book and informed her that one of her old standbys, Fried Spam with Brown Sugar, could have qualified as a White Trash recipe. Then I reminded her of another culinary treat passed down to posterity from her mother and the Depression - Penny Stew, which is creamed, sliced hot dogs served on mashed potatoes (commonly called spuds). I won't even go into Shanty Irish (just kidding, Ma!) Cooking because we don't want to get too ethnic, but I know Ernie and his friends would probably like it.

So, I can't wait to try some of the WHITE TRASH recipes, such as Tutti's Fruited Porkettes, Four-Can Deep Tuna Pie and Whiskey Sauce (it calls for a cup of Jack Daniels, so you know it's got to be good).*

Now, every once in a while such fancy items as sour cream and sherry creep into some recipes, but basically these are folks who know that vegetables taste better soaked in some kind of grease.

I like the simple, forthright directions too, such as; for Onion Pie: "Fry onions in oleo until limp..." (none of that saute" until transparent stuff) or for CREPES À LA CRÈOLA LE BEAU: "... go buy a package of flour tortillas."

*A little mistake on the Yankee Cream Gravy, Ern - we make it with and serve it on top of fried salt pork. That plain flour and milk mixture is a little bland - even for a Yankee.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The age of high technology is upon us. On August 18th, we began use of our Apple IIe microcomputer under the Gaylord Circulation System on our two bookmobiles. Our troubles mainly have been mechanical, as one of our generators on the bookmobile gave out and we had no electricity for a time, but we feel things are progressing well. The system works! We are able to use a light pen to enter the patron numbers and the books numbers so that the computer knows who has out which book. This has proven to be very helpful to our reference department in searching for interlibrary loans and reserves.

Our automation committee, which met recently, has assisted us in planning for the next five years using the $60,000 available to us under the Library Omnibus Bill. Thanks to all of you, legislators and friends alike who have helped to make this possible. With these funds our committee has decided to purchase microcomputers and modems so that all of our member libraries will be able to contact us through the microcomputers. Later on we are talking about automated circulation for member libraries if this is proven to be feasible and if the member
libraries wish to do so. We are also talking about the use of CD-Rom equipment to store the entire C-E-F Library System data base, and possibly that of the North Country Library System as well. These could be given to each member library so that they would know where the approximately 1.6 million books are located in the 3 R's area. What a major advance we have made in the past five years alone!

We look forward to the new technology because of what it will do for our libraries and especially for our library users. We also look forward to expanding library services so that library users will have more hours of library service available to them at the local level. This is where standards come in. A look ahead into the future will show that there will soon be a need for each library to review its hours of opening and to determine if there is not some way in which they can expand these hours so that their public have access to the information contained within at additional times during the week. The hours which each library chooses to open should also consider the working people, the elderly and the young people, each of which group needs different hours of access for the public library.

On our part, we at C-E-F Library System pledge that we will try even harder to increase the services available to the member libraries and to help them in training and support in any way we can.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

BLACK POETRY DAY, 1986

This year, without the major funding which we have previously received, C-E-F Library System is sponsoring Black Poetry Day in the Plattsburgh area with the presentation of readings by noted Boston Black poet, Sam Cornish. The poet will read from his works on Wednesday, October 15th at the college ballroom at Plattsburgh State University College. The selection of October 15th, rather than the Black Poetry Day date of October 17th, will avoid conflicts with major festivals and meetings at the college which occur on the 16th and 17th of October.

Mr. Cornish has a new book called Songs of Jubilee, issued by the Unicorn Press. Mr. Cornish is a professor of English Literature at Emerson College in Boston. His work shows the influence of T.S. Eliott, Robert Lowell and LeRoi Jones.

We urge other libraries to join us in celebrating Black Poetry Day on October 17th and in attending Mr. Cornish's reading on October 15th.

We do have some flyers, bookmarks and some bibliographies left, if any libraries wish to have several copies. Please let me know. We will be obtaining a grant from Poets & Writers, Inc. and the N.Y.S. Writers Institute to help support the appearance of Mr. Cornish. We appreciate the help of our members from PSUC who are arranging to have the use of the college ballroom at Plattsburgh State University College, where Mr. Cornish will speak at 7:30 on October 15th.

Stanley A. Ransom

PARENTS AS READING PARTNERS

The C-E-F Library System PARP brochure has been redesigned and five thousand copies have been printed, courtesy of Price Chopper Supermarkets. Their Golub Foundation in Schenectady provides this service free to libraries and other non-profit or cultural organizations.

These brochures are being distributed through member libraries and through the Parents as Reading Partners conferences in New York State.
Permission is hereby granted for any organization to reproduce these brochures, which give reading help tips for parents of pre-schoolers, for free distribution, provided that the C-E-F and Price Chopper credit lines are included.

Director Stanley Ransom, who announced the availability of these brochures in a recent "Changing Times" magazine, has received 266 requests from 44 states and one foreign country, as well as Washington, D.C.

Our thanks to Price Chopper Supermarkets for printing these brochures.

Stanley A. Ransom

MARKETING TRAINING WORKSHOP

Thanks to a $25,000 grant from the New York State Council on the Arts, the C-E-F Library System is able to sponsor a series of five workshops on Marketing Training for representatives of library and cultural organizations. The series began on September 16th with a review of population characteristics in New York State and the North Country by State Demographer Michael Batutis. Data Systems Manager from the PSUC Technical Assistance Center, Gordon DeVries, moderated the session and analyzed attitudes toward cultural activities in the North Country. Mr. DeVries distributed and reviewed a Cultural Awareness Survey recently completed by the Technical Assistance Center staff. This showed that some 96% of respondents were aware of library and interlibrary loan services, more than any other type of cultural activity in the North Country.

The series will continue on September 30th with Media Alternatives and the Development of a Local Marketing Plan for each cultural organization. The remainder of the series will be moderated by Nancy Church, PSUC School of Business faculty member. She is currently authoring a book on Marketing for the Smaller Cultural Organization as part of the grant.

Twenty-six cultural organizations, including the arts councils of the three counties and six libraries, are participating in the marketing training series.

Stanley A. Ransom

ALBANY LIBRARY TRUSTEE INSTITUTE

On September 12-13th, C-E-F System Trustee Keela Rogers, Plattsburgh Public Library Board President Pearlie Rabin and System Director Stanley Ransom attended the Library Trustee Institute in Albany. Trustees from all over New York State met and talked together and learned about the State Library and its services, as well as discussing the role of library trustees. Keela Rogers was a panelist on the Legislative Action program. Stanley Ransom was a panelist discussing Lobbying and Public Relations.

These annual Institutes are of much value to library trustees, especially newer trustees, but for seasoned ones as well. The System receives a grant to send three trustees to the Institute.

Stanley A. Ransom
AUTOMATION GRANT

An Automation Committee has been formed to assist the C-E-F Library System Board of Trustees and Staff in determining the future of automation for the System. The Committee consists of Keela Rogers, Emily Castine, Herbert Newlove, Joyce Meagher, David Minnich, Therese Patnode, Mary Kay Rillahan, Mary Ann Tremblay and Janice Allen. The Committee met on September 2nd and reviewed, changed and approved the draft of the 1986 and 1987 and long-range plan applications for the $60,000 Automation Grant obtained from the recently passed Library Omnibus Bill.

Plans for automation for 1986 and 1987 include purchase of a DEC mini-computer to enhance the Gaylord circulation system and the purchase of 20 Apple IIe microcomputers and modems for member libraries. Microfiche readers will also be purchased to enable member librarians to search the Gaylord microfiche for interlibrary loan requests. Future plans include on-line access by member librarians to the Gaylord data base, the provision for desk top publishing, the use of telefax to speed document delivery to the System, and the exploration of satellite communication as a means of contacting member libraries and bookmobiles.

Stanley A. Ransom

C-E-F LIBRARY TRUSTEE INSTITUTE

On September 5-6, over 30 trustees of member public libraries gathered at the Lake Placid Hilton for the C-E-F Library Trustee Institute. Mark Evans, Director of Livingston and Wyoming Library System, and Richard Killian, Director of Nioga Library System, presented the inspiring program of trustee duties and responsibilities, library policies, and legal obligations. They covered board/librarian relations, public relations and many other aspects of library trustee life. On Friday evening, Ralph Folcarelli, a trustee of Huntington, L.I., Public Library and Suffolk Cooperative Library System and formerly Dean of the Graduate Library School at Long Island University, spoke on the duties and responsibilities of library trustees from a trustee's point of view. On Saturday, Edward Damp of Wilkins Agency, reviewed recent changes in legislation affecting liability and insurance coverage for library trustees. Mrs. Karen Hare, Programs' Officer for North Country Library System, represented that system and assisted at the Institute.

Library trustees who attended were pleased at the importance and success of the Institute, which was funded by the New York State Library under a Title I Grant of the Library Services and Construction Act.

Stanley A. Ransom

ANNUAL MEETING

Over 150 people attended the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System, which was held at The Hotel Saranac in Saranac Lake on August 4.

Robert Taylor, author of Saranac: America's Magic Mountain, was the guest speaker.

Senator Ronald B. Stafford was the recipient of the Richard W. Lawrence, Jr. Award for 1986 in honor of his leadership role in promoting and sponsoring library legislation. The award, a glass engraving, was presented to Senator Stafford by Richard W. Lawrence, Jr. (in whose honor the award was founded in 1979).
This year Senator Stafford supported legislation which resulted in a $65,000 increase in our System's basic operating support from the State.

There have been increases in Outreach support and Central Library Aid, including increases in funds for the Central Library's book collection. The Omnibus Bill also provides an increase in Local Library Incentive Aid, which increases the aid paid to each public library in the System.

Senator Stafford has also been very helpful in writing letters of support for C-E-F Grant applications and for grants to help individual public libraries.

The Senator has also strongly supported the creation and continuation of our Job and Education Information Center, located at Plattsburgh Public Library, which last year assisted over 5,000 persons in need of job, career and education information.

This year Senator Stafford also supported a bill giving $20,000 for the C-E-F Rural Health Information Delivery program and also a $75,000 grant to the Peru Free Library for its expansion project.

Assemblyman Chris Ortloff also attended the luncheon.

At the Annual Meeting the $100 check awarded to libraries expanding their service area was presented to the Keene Valley Library.

The drawing for the $100 New York Library Association Conference Grant was won by the Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library, with the Keeseville Free Library as alternate. This grant is given annually to enable a member librarian to attend the NYLA Conference.

**TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS**

Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System Board Of Trustees President, Emily Castine, was awarded her M.L.S. (Master of Library Science) degree from SUNY, Albany on May 18, 1986. She is employed as school library specialist at Chazy Central Rural School.

Emily is also writing a column on Canadian children's literature for the Teaching Canada newsletter published by the Center for the Study of Canada, SUNY, Plattsburgh. This periodical is issued three or four times yearly.

**C-E-F ARTIST**

Many of you have probably seen the unique red and yellow bookmarks which the System passed out at the County Fairs this year and which were also distributed to the member libraries and bookmobiles.

The drawings were the work of Aaron Ferby who has been working at Headquarters through the Clinton County Employment and Training Administration.

Aaron is 16 years old and is a senior at Plattsburgh High School.
The Chateaugay Town Hall. The library entrance is at the right of the double doors.

Librarian Frances Jarvis.

From left, Chateaugay Trustee Jeannette Hotchkiss, Librarian Frances Jarvis and Board President Margaret Barnes.

A young patron and her mother examine books in the children's corner.

Photos by Carol G. Bedore
I would like to thank Chateaugay Librarian Frances ("Frankie") Jarvis for supplying me with a wealth of information on the history of her library in the form of scrapbooks, newspaper clippings and notes.

I would also like to thank Chateaugay Trustee Jeanette Hotchkiss for spending time with me further explaining the history of the library.

In 1977, Jeanette Hotchkiss gave a speech to the combined Rotary clubs of Chateaugay and Huntingdon, Quebec (Chateaugay is only about 4 miles from the Canadian border) on the history and development of the library. On that occasion she was presented by the Canadian club with a book, Entre Amis/Between Friends. A copy of that book had once been presented to U.S. President Gerald Ford by Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau on the occasion of his visit to Washington.

I have borrowed freely from the speech Mrs. Hotchkiss gave that day in writing this article, as well as the other articles belonging to Chateaugay Memorial.

There is something comfortable about the Home Bureau scrapbook which contains the story of the library in newspaper clippings, photos and momentoos.

A small town’s grieving tributes to young soldiers fallen in World War II, the blue ribbon the Home Bureau won for its library exhibit at the Franklin County Fair in 1946, photos of a parade in 1949 - someone carefully preserved and arranged these souvenirs over the past 40 years, as we save our children’s drawings and report cards. You know that this library was created by and for the community of which it is a part.

In 1945, Rose Almaw, then President of the Chateaugay Home Bureau Unit of 71 members set in motion plans for a library. She was particularly inspired by a U.S. Department of Agriculture bulletin, "Rural Library Service" (which has been kept in the scrap book). An article from the Chateaugay Record on April 23, 1945 states, "It is hoped that once a start is made by the Home Bureau, that every individual and organization in Chateaugay will back the Library so that it may grow...What a post-war project this could be!"

The library was conceived as a living memorial to local men killed in World War II - hence the name Chateaugay Memorial Library. It continues to be a memorial even to the present, however, as gifts are given in memory of people who have died since the War.

The Home Bureau’s Library Committee Chairman was Lillian Banta. Home Bureau members canvassed door-to-door soliciting household memberships at 50¢ a piece (there is no charge for memberships today). The Village and Town Boards generously offered the use of the Village Room in the Chateaugay Town Hall. Julie Harrica, a Chateaugay School librarian acted as a consultant and aided in the selection, processing and cataloging of books. Thus, on February 16, 1946, with donations of used books and some new copies, the first public library in Chateaugay opened its doors.

In the summer of 1946, the Home Bureau was recognized for its project by being awarded first prize for its Franklin County Fair exhibit on the "Development of a Community Library" - the judges gave it a 100% rating.

In October, 1947, the expanding library was moved across the hallway to what was then known as the Welfare Room. With this move, draperies were added and a desk purchased by the Home Bureau was repaired and refinished by the Industrial Arts Department at the Chateaugay High School under the supervision of John Hotchkiss.

The library was granted a Provisional Charter by the State in 1947. This Charter was renewed four times until, in 1974,
the library was granted an Absolute Charter.

In 1963, the now enlarged Town Board room was made available and the library's third and final move took place.

A grant from the Chateaugay Central School Board in 1965 made it possible for the library to hire its first paid employee, Librarian Frankie Jarvis, who had previously been a library volunteer. For the nearly twenty years previous the library had operated entirely with volunteer workers!

Money has never been plentiful but the library has survived relying heavily on local support. The Town Board provides the library room with heat, light and telephone. The Town, Village and School Boards provide monetary support. The library furnishings, shelving, book drop and book truck, as well as many of its books have been purchased through memorial gifts and donations. Various local organizations such as the Catholic Daughters, the United Methodist Women, the Maple-Leaf 4H and the Senior Citizens group have answered library appeals over the years.

The library's holdings now total over 8,000 books and the library's yearly circulation is also around 8,000.

On the day when Photographer Carol Bedore and I visited, the library was busy very soon after opening its doors for the day. Back in 1962, (the year Chateaugay Memorial joined the C-E-F Library System) during a TV interview with longtime volunteer librarian Hazel Hogan, the library received the slogan "The library which has done the most with the least." It is still upholding that tradition today.

Mary S. Hopkins

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**ALTONA READING CENTER**

On August 27, Lee Salzman, Elizabeth Rogers, Carol Bedore and Mary Hopkins from Headquarters met with a group of Trustees and volunteers of the Altona Reading Center to help prepare for the reading center's opening, which is projected for October.

System services were discussed and practical advice was given by the System staff in areas such as cataloguing and book-buying.

Barbara Deyo, typist in the Outreach Department, is one of the new Altona trustees. Other trustees are: Jane Sayah, Ellen Montgomery, Betsey Baker, Carolyn and William Slocum, and Jan Trudo. George Baker will be the librarian.
NEW C-E-F FILM CATALOGS AVAILABLE

At last, the long-awaited 1986 edition of the C-E-F 16mm Film Catalog is available and the response has been enthusiastic. The catalog was prepared by Marie D. Chauvin, Head of the System's Film Department.

The catalog was last updated in 1981. Since then, more than 200 film titles have been added to this new, 145-page edition. Among the new films are several of the ever-popular Walt Disney nature films.

The C-E-F Library System loans films free of charge for non-profit use to responsible community groups and organizations through any of the member libraries or bookmobiles in the System.

Films are also available for classroom use, but there is a charge of $7.50 per film to schools.

For further information contact Marie Chauvin at System Headquarters. Phone: 563-5190.
HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

LITERACY AND LEARNING
NORTH COUNTRY LITERACY COALITION
FREE HELP
1-800-221-1980

LEE SALZMAN REPORTS:

Project Literacy U.S. (PLUS) is beginning its impact both nationally and locally. Documentaries and news specials have already aired on our local ABC station, WVNY, and documentaries will be aired on local PBS stations in September, October and November. Lee Salzman, serving as convener for the North Country Literacy Coalition/PLUS Task Force has been making presentations on the problem of illiteracy to area service groups. She is also representing the Coalition on local radio interview programs. The System's Job & Education Information Center has begun operation of a literacy hotline number (1-800-221-1980), and has received calls from prospective volunteers and for students almost daily since the beginning of September. The purpose of this hotline is to make appropriate referrals to literacy providers throughout Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties.

Many of our member libraries have been participating in literacy activities, and several are attempting to expand their efforts. Over half are delivery sites for GRASP (Giving Rural Adults A Study Program), a home study based project for GED and pre-GED students. Several libraries have collections of high interest/low reading level materials in support of Literacy Volunteers programs. Some also provide space for tutor training and for tutor/student meetings.

Grant applications on the Federal and State level have been made recently which would increase collections of basic reading level materials as well as provide for computer aided instruction through approximately 1/3 of our member libraries. We hope to receive word on these soon.

Leona Salzman
Assistant Director/Head of Outreach

JEIC NEWS

The Job and Education Information Center staff consists of myself, Kathie LaBombard, and my two assistants, Betty Collins and Judy Menard. Both Betty and I have communicated with you through the Trailblazer, so this time we thought you might enjoy learning more about the third member of our staff, Judy Menard. Judy has been with our center for three years, and keeps a very busy schedule working full-time, going to school part-time and keeping a home for her husband, Scott, and herself. Here's Judy's story.

"Like everything else in the world today, the role of the traditional college student is changing. More and more adults are returning to college to pursue higher educational goals while combining full-time employment and family responsibilities. This helps to relieve the financial burden of ever-increasing costs. I know because I combine full-time employment with a 9 credit course load."
"After I acquired my Associates Degree, I obtained my present position at the JEIC. I knew I wanted to obtain my Bachelor's, but in what! Being undecided, I then did some career exploration to research my interest skills, needs and values and goals. Resources such as SIGI Plus, JEIC Vertical File and Occupational Outlook Handbook proved most helpful. Most importantly, I contacted different professionals and talked to regular users of the Center who are engaged in a variety of careers.

"Today, I have finished my Nursing courses except for the internship and am pursuing my B.S. in Business. As graduation nears, (December 1987), my confidence gets stronger as I further my skills and knowledge. Using the JEIC's resources has been a significant step in my life and I strongly encourage anyone who is undecided or in need of assistance with Job or Career Information to use the Center. It can help you!

P.S. I would like to thank Kathie and Betty for accommodating with my irregular hours at times."

We're very proud of Judy and marvel at where she finds so much energy! She's a real asset to the Center because she can emphasize with many of our patrons and is always cheerfully ready to help out!

Kathie LaBombard
JEIC Librarian

REFERENCE/INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Summer's over, school's in session, and we're all refreshed by our summer vacations—and as if to prove that, we're quickly moving further into the world of automation. Interlibrary loan is changing (again) at C-E-F, and we're updating procedures to make the most of our Gaylord automated circulation system. We now assign a unique number code to each item we borrow or lend. We enter the author, title, and number into the Gaylord system, and then check the item out to the borrowing library or bookmobile.

One of the great advantages of all this is increased accountability—we have improved access to the borrower's name and the due date. What this means for our libraries is a better return rate and prompt return of materials. What this means for borrowers is overdue notices for materials not returned by their due dates. The end result for all of us is improved interlibrary loan service. Look for more changes toward that end...

In addition to our new circulation procedures, we're welcoming the Keene Valley Library Association to our C-E-F group of EASYLINK libraries, all of whom can communicate with each other via microcomputer. Tom Blauvelt from the North Country 3R's met me in Keene Valley to help Librarian Maggie Sheldon plug in her new Tandy system and try it out. We're gaining on our goal of systemwide electronic mail!

We hosted a successful reference program on resources for small businesses on September 8. Our morning speaker, business information specialist Susan DiMattia, presented excellent information on materials offering various types of information for business people and librarians. Many of these resources are available through the System, some are inexpensive and can be purchased by our smaller member libraries, and some are available at larger libraries.

The four-member panel of local specialists presented a wide variety of area resources in the afternoon, complete with a demonstration of the Technical Assistance Center's computer demographics program. We were all impressed with the amount of information and the scope of services available to libraries and to individuals in our area.

Elizabeth S. Rogers
Head of Reference and Interlibrary Loan
ESSEX HUMANITIES SERIES

Abby Zito is the Director of the Essex Humanities series, sponsored by the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System. She has just announced that a $100,000 grant has been received to continue this excellent series and that she plans to expand the territory served to include libraries in the Mid-York and Southern Adirondack Library Systems and possibly, in the Mohawk Valley Library System.

Regarding current programs, Abby reports, "We anticipate having funds available to present lecture/reading/discussion programs in 15 libraries in the C-E-F System. The programs will be similar to the "American Dreams" programs we've been presenting throughout the course of this year. As director of the ongoing program, which will be funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, I would like to receive expressions of interest from librarians, library board members and friends in the C-E-F System network. That will be a start. I'll hold a formal workshop in the fall."

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Janice Allen of Paine Memorial Library in Willsboro will also be presenting a new series of Humanities lectures and films at her library on six Thursday nights this fall. It's an excellent series which Janice sought and received funding for herself from the LIFT Program of the New York State Council on the Arts.

The schedule is:

1986 Fall History Lecture Series

IMMIGRANTS, DREAMERS OF AMERICAN DREAMS

September 18, 1986      The Uprooted by Oscar Handlin - Stephen Donadio, Middlebury
October 2, 1986         Giants of the Earth by Ole Rolvaag - Ingie LaFleur, SUNY, Plattsburgh
October 16, 1986        "America, America" - film
October 30, 1986        How the Other Half Lives by Jacob Riis - Anita Rapone, SUNY, Plattsburgh
November 6, 1986        Out of this Furnace by Thomas Bell - Barbara Bellows, Middlebury
November 13, 1986       "Hester Street" - film

Middlebury College faculty (address to Donadio, American Studies; Bellows, History)
Middlebury, VT 05753
802-388-3711

State University of NY at Plattsburgh
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
564-2000, History Dept. 564-2213, Ingie LaFleur 564-2080
REMINDER

THE DEADLINE FOR THE TRAILBLAZER
NEWS FOR THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE
IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1986

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

DANNEBROA FREE LIBRARY

Librarian Doris Haley reports:

Recently 90 out of 114 readers completed
the Dannemora Free Library's summer COOL
IT reading club. Readers were required to
read at least five books during the eight weeks
of the program, and to certify that they had
read them. Most readers more than met the
requirements.

The following readers completed the club:
Dorothy Agnew, Jennifer Arit, Bryan Baker,
Mary Barber, Kris Barcomb, Timmy Barcomb,
Nathan Barton, Amy Bigelow, Jamie Bowman,
Eric Brady, Shelley Cane, Erin Canning, Heather
Canning, Nicole Carter, Matthew Carter,
Danny DeLuca, Timmy DeLuca, Stuart Douglas,
Alice Dragoon, Leigh Dragoon, Kami Duffy,
Kelly Duffy, Donald Dutko, Elizabeth Fayette,
Tim Fayette, Duane Floyd, Heidi Floyd, Karri
Floyd, Brooke Gatas, Garry Gonya, Melanie
Haley, Trish Haley, Danielle Howard, Michelle
Howard, Abby Huckeba, Ira Juneau, Melissa
Kramer, David Kubik, Jacob LaFontaine, Morgan
Langey, Eric Lapier, Ricky Larche, Carrie
Layhee, Cathy Layhee, Donna Lawliss, Melissa
Liberty, Erica Lindsay, Maura Mack, Mary
Martin, Jason Merritt, Kate Muskunas, Robbi
Miner, Rhonda Miner, Casey O'Connor, Michael
O'Donel, Stephanie O'Donel, Tim Patno, Renee
Pelkey, Toni Pellerin, Scott Petrasheue, Becky
Plumadore, Jason Plumadore, Benjamin Radley,
Kelly Recore, Jennifer Reyell, Davey Rice,
Marcia Rice, Sonya Rivers, Tracy Rock, Travis
Rock, Peggy Scott, Adam Shatraw, Kelly
Sweeney, Leslie Sweeney, Jason Tamer, Christa
White, Butchie Wing, Trish Wing, Tara Wright,
Jennie Yaagar, Jenelle Zelinski, and Neil
Zelinski.

On the closing day of the program,
those completing received achievement
certificates from the library. Mrs. Wallace
Haley, librarian, was assisted by Christina
Walpole.

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ELIZABETHTOWN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The lecture series "America As An
Emerging Nation," part of the Essex
Humanities Series was very successful.
The series was enjoyed by all who attended.
It was an excellent learning experience
as well as entertaining.

Throughout the summer we continued
to have a Pre-School Storytime each
Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. It was well attended
and will continue to be held throughout
the year.

Mrs. Sylvia Kurtenbach retired in
June after giving 25 years of faithful
and diligent service to the library as
librarian. Mrs. Mary Lou Grinwis has
taken her place, and Mrs. Dot Tyler will
continue as assistant librarian.

The library once again has installed
a telephone to help serve our patrons.
The phone number is 873-2670.

BELDEN NOBLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

ESSEX

The Belden Noble Memorial Library
has wound up one of the busiest summer
seasons in years, thanks to a dedicated
Board of Trustees and Librarian, Arline Leaning.

With extra help provided through the Town of Essex summer work program, the library was open every afternoon, except Sunday, during July and August. Volunteers manned the library every Monday night. Two cookie sales, an ongoing paperback book sale and the appearance on Main Street of the "Mile of Pennies" fund-raiser helped add needed dollars to the treasury. (Editor's Note - Stan Ransom informed me that it takes 80,000 pennies for a mile.)

An open house on August 9 was well attended, attracting many summer visitors. A special feature was an exhibit of unique Hill Tribe dolls from Thailand. Cookies and punch were served.

The summer kicked off with a special cleanup of the building and the planting of two flower beds flanking the entrance. Impatiens and Dusty Miller were backdropped by Dutch iris.

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On September 23, Stanley Ransom, Kathie LaBomaband, Mary Hopkins and Elizabeth Rogers from Headquarters visited Belden-Noble to assist with the library's weeding project and to discuss proposed library improvements with Librarian Arline Leaning, Essex Board President Fern Cunnion and Essex Board Treasurer Janice Moran.

FORT COVINGTON READING CENTER

The Fort Covington Reading Center-Museum will hold its second annual bazaar on September 27. Last year, this fundraiser made it possible for insulation to be installed at the reading center. This year's goal is the installation of a heating system so that the reading center can remain open all year.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY

A poetry reading and workshop was held at the Keene Valley Library on August 9th. The reading and workshop was lead by Roger Mitchell, English Language and Literature Professor at the University of Indiana, Bloomington, Indiana. His newest published book of poetry is A Clear Space on a Cold Day. Earlier books are Siberia and other poems and Moving. A volume entitled Adirondack is in process of publication. Mitchell grew up in Saranac Lake and continues to find many of his roots in this region.

A Keene Valley poet, Chase Twichell, read from her newly published book, The Odds, and her earlier book, Northern Spy. Tam Neville, from Keene Valley and Crawfordsville, Indiana, also read. This literary event was made possible with support from Poets and Writers, Inc., which is funded by the Literature Program of the New York State Council on the Arts.

Mitchell is also working on a prose work, Looking for Israel Johnson. Johnson was a farmer and casual innkeeper who lived in the town of Moriah near Elk Lake in the 18th century. Mitchell first heard of Israel Johnson accidentally and then began looking up the land deeds and early court records. Later his research took him to Genesee, New York, where descendants of Johnson had moved.

KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

During the past year, the library has continued to expand its collection of both hard cover and paper-back books. Our magazine subscriptions have been renewed, resulting in the continued widespread circulation of various periodicals. Numerous large-print books are on our shelves, and free films are still available upon request. We also have art reproductions which may be placed on loan.

We have added materials to the downstairs children's area, while continuing our various youth services. These projects include the weekly story hour, a summer reading program, and a successful "book fair" held at the local elementary school. We even participated in the annual Field Day Parade with a special children's float!

Our income is the result of the generosity of the various local governments, our school district, and the contributors to the libraries fund drive. Without this
annual drive we simply could not continue to operate as we have in the past.

LAKE PLACID PUBLIC LIBRARY

Four new oral biography tapes are available at the Lake Placid Public Library, the result of an exchange program with the Williamsburg Regional Library in Virginia.

On one tape, John C. Houbolt, former chief aeronautical scientist at NASA, whose contribution was instrumental in putting a man on the moon, talks about his role in the historic project.

David J. Keogh, a former U.S. Foreign Aid expert, sheds light on the practice of dispensing foreign aid in underdeveloped countries.

Robert C. Walker, mayor of Williamsburg, Va., the capital city of Colonial America, reminisces about his youth, politics and his encounters with famous people visiting Williamsburg.

On the fourth tape, Grant Mouser III, a U.S. career diplomat for the past 35 years talks about the art of diplomacy.

The Adirondack Oral Biographical Library, in existence since 1975, is a part of the Lake Placid Public Library. Its tapes can be used as teaching tools in sociology, history, career planning, journalism, and for their entertainment value. The tapes may be borrowed without charge.

Frank Shatz, a columnist for The Virginia Gazette, was instrumental in establishing the Oral Biographical Library in Lake Placid and Williamsburg.

The exchange program between the Winter Sport Capital of the U.S. and the Historic Colonial Capital of America, will be "Extensive and of mutual benefit," Mr. Shatz said.

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The section on science fiction at the Lake Placid Public Library was expanded recently by 140 volumes, a gift from Edward Patnode.

Mr. Patnode, a Lake Placid native, taught English for many years at Nyack High School and developed a class in science fiction. He donated the books to the library on his retirement.

The books include famous science fiction authors, new works, and some books that have been long out of print.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Director Dave Minnich reports:

The Wead Library was the first library in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System to communicate with System headquarters electronically, through the EasyLink telecommunications network. We're the second-largest library in the System, and of course, it's a rara avis which doesn't say, "When you're number two, you try harder," Pundits would say, that Hertz!

If the summer gave us respite, it was in preparation for a roaring beginning in September. The 29th of August, the Director discovered that his presence was requested in Plattsburgh to take part in a committee concerned with the development of bibliographic data bases in the System and in New York State, as well as with the automation of the System's member libraries. That was preceded by the discovery that the Division of Library Development was looking for grant applications dealing with Literacy Volunteer programs. Our application was submitted and accepted. According to one System source, it looked as good, or better, than the application the Library System had prepared for itself. As a result, three grant applications were sent to Albany, with ours on top, and System's below that. Whether any one or all will be approved is in the lap of the gods. No orders can be placed until official notification is received, and the funds will have to be spent in jig time.

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On September 8th, the Director and his wife attended a System workshop in business reference sources at System Headquarters, and on September 18, a Malone trio attended a North Country 3R's Workshop on preserving library materials. This was held at the Adirondack Museum at Blue Mountain Lake.

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During the summer, our circulation seemed to suffer a decline. It was undoubtedly dampened by the wet weather. An average of 4,214 items circulated during the months of June, July, and August. The daily average circulation for the period was 187. That may seem low, but compared with the figures filed two decades ago, the numbers are more than doubled. During those three months, an average of 122 reference questions were recorded. There were three talking book applications handled during July and August. During this quarter, an average of 23 inter-library loan requests were sent out each month, and during this period, 22 of the Wead Library's volumes were loaned to requesting institutions. 14 volumes each month came our way as a result of our inter-library loan requests; 13 art prints circulated during the three month period. We requested 44 films during that time for various community groups and 40 films were used locally.

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During this period, the Director had the pleasure of being on WICY's "Forum" program, which gave him a chance to speak of some of the many aspects of library service, and, as in the past, the Malone Evening Telegram has been most helpful in promoting our activities.

We can hope that with the beginning of another school year, no student discovers any truth in Sir Arthur Helps statement: "Reading is sometimes an ingenious device for avoiding thought." He said this in his Friends in Council, bk. ii, ch. 1, 1847. Mayhap Sir Arthur lacked a friend or two in Council, after making that comment.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

Norman Bethune, world renowned physician and former Trudeau Sanitarium patient, was the subject of a lecture by Dr. Eugene Link in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library on July 24.

This illustrated lecture entitled "Norman Bethune: International Surgeon and Humanitarian: The United States Connection" Focused on Bethune's critical battle with TB at the famous Trudeau Sanitarium.

Of particular interest were paintings done by Dr. Bethune while occupying the Lea cottage at the sanitarium. These paintings, expressing some of the darkest moments of Bethune's struggle with disease, unaccountably disappeared. Fortunately, Dr. Link discovered antique wooden slides of these paintings in old boxes at the sanitarium. Restored versions of these valuable slides formed a key part of his lecture.

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The carefree days of summer past were highlighted in "Gateways to Adirondack Summers: 1870-1900," the Mary-Dell Mathis Newbold Memorial Photography Exhibit held at the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library during July and August.

The exhibit of 24 photographs is a tribute to the artistry of three outstanding Adirondack photographers Seneca Ray Stoddard, G.W. Baldwin and William L. Distin.

It is also a grateful acknowledgement of the work of Mary-Dell "Mandy" Newbold who spent many hours cataloguing the extensive photograph collection of the Saranac Lake Free Library. Exhibit costs including framing, matting and printing of photographs were made possible by gifts to the library in memory of Mrs. Newbold.

This traveling exhibit will next be at the Franklin County Court House in Malone during October and November.

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One of the most popular events in Saranac Lake every summer, "Come to the Fair," took place on August 5. The
annual event is sponsored by the Saranac Lake Friends of the Library. Books, white elephant items, baked goods, plants and crafts were on sale.

The fair was a resounding success, bringing in over $6,300 for the library, far surpassing the 1985 amount.

Hundreds of volunteers helped make the fair a success and a record number of people attended the event - many took advantage of the evening hours.

The proceeds will be used for adult and children's books and necessary library equipment, including a typewriter.

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Dr. Thomas Minehan followed up his fascinating and informative lecture this past spring with a slide presentation entitled "A Look At The Night Sky" on August 21. During his talk, Dr. Minehan illustrated and described night sky objects including planets, moons, comets and meteor showers. Using major observatory slides, he pointed out details of deep sky objects not usually visible with small telescopes. He provided tips for viewing and enjoying the spectacle of the night sky.

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Peggy Hunt and Doris Richter, two founding members of the Saranac Lake Paint and Palette Art Association, presented a joint exhibition in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library which ran from August 18 to September 12. The show included thirty works in pastels, acrylic, oils, charcoal, and watercolor.

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An exhibition of 23 paintings commemorating New York State Architectural Heritage Year: 1986, opened Monday, September 15, in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library.

The show by Bernadine T. Brooks of Lake Placid features paintings of historic sites in Northern New York, including the Chapel at Trudeau Sanitarium, Little Red Curing Cottage, the Stevenson Cottage, John Brown's Farm, Pioneer Bridge, and the Albany State Capitol Building.

Brooks visits each site, sketching and photographing, to prepare for the painting, which is later completed in her studio. The paintings which contain accurate details, along with evocative details to create the feeling of the place, are rendered in watercolor or egg tempera, an old process using egg yoke as the binder for the colorful pigments.

Born in New Jersey, the artist started exhibiting her paintings while still in high school, winning the Roebling Art Scholarship Award. Brooks majored in Textile Design and Fashion Illustration at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. Later she studied at the Academy of American Universities in Avignon, France. Brooks has also designed numerous sets for local theater productions.

Currently Brooks is working on a series of ten historic greeting cards. They will be on sale in about six months. The New York State Historical Series will be traveling to Jefferson County Historical Museum in Watertown in October. In 1987, 50 works will be on display in a one-woman show at the Rockland County Historical Museum.

The exhibit is part of the library's special membership series of exhibits and programs. The public is cordially invited to view the show during regular library hours through October 15.

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 16 - a slide presentation - "Summer Journey Through The Soviet Union" - the speaker will be William LaBounty.

October 20 - November 15 - Watercolor exhibit featuring the works of Anne Lacy of Westport.

The Brown Bag Luncheon discussion series will be starting a new season on October 21, with "What The American Management Association Is and Does" - a slide presentation by Bob Walsh, Vice-President of the Saranac Lake operations of the American Management Association.
A good number of young people joined the library's summer reading program. Those who read at least five books by September 1 received a gift of a new book.

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