We all — individuals and organizations — have our holiday traditions. One of mine is to keep this issue of the Trailblazer brief, in deference to the other demands of this busy season.

Another tradition is to thank all the members of the C-E-F staff who worked hard during the year at the various stages of the Trailblazer’s production (typing, reproduction, assembly and mailing):

Marilyn Blanchard
Jayme Cleveland
Barbara Deyo
Cindy Duval

Eileen Favreau
Lyndon Johnson
Connie Plunkett
Karen Geddes
Mary LaValley
Bob Russell

and so—to paraphrase the song (just be thankful that I can’t sing it aloud to you) — tho’ it’s been said many times, many ways

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and also HAPPY HANNUKKAH

and BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR to you.

Mary Shaw Hopkins
Editor
FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Many thanks to the NYLA leadership for the 1987 NYLA Outstanding Service to Libraries Award, which I received at the Annual Conference. It was a great surprise to me, and I appreciated the honor very much. The plaque and the engraved clock now grace my office. Thanks to all of you.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

LEGISLATIVE PLANNING FOR 1988

Sharply rising costs of the Empire State Health Plan are threatening the 1988 Budget. An increase of 53% in the Individual Plan and 66% in the Family Plan push the projected Health Care costs from $64,000 to over $105,000 for next year. The C-E-F Board, Staff and CSEA Unit are trying to find alternative solutions to this major increase. If anyone out there has some suggestions, I would really like to hear them.

The NYLA Legislative Proposals for 1988 would enable the C-E-F Library System to be solvent for 1988. The NYLA Proposal would increase the minimum for public library systems from $615,000 to $770,000, which would cover our projected deficit.

We are currently awaiting the 1988 Regents proposal. Let us hope they also will consider a proposal for an increase to at least $750,000, which would enable us to be in the black next year. Any less, and C-E-F would be in difficulties.

We will be working closely with our local and state legislators, the Regents, the State Library and the NYLA leadership to bring our concerns to their attention.

The new proposed minimum standards, when adopted, will result in additional system activities in helping trustees and member librarians to plan for library services. We need the legislative increases in order to carry out our responsibilities fully.

Stanley A. Ransom

REPORT ON PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS

(The following represents my own view and is not an official report of the Committee.)

Thanks to all of you who took time to write to me and to other committee members and to make your views known at public hearings. On November 13th the Committee met and dealt with many of the suggestions and criticisms presented. The Committee eliminated about two-thirds of the 46 basic statements, leaving about 16 still in place.

Trustees will note elimination of requirements for ten board meetings, elimination of term of office restrictions and attendance at system annual meetings. There will probably be a continued call for trustee bylaws, a long-range plan, and written policies and attendance at regional or state trustee orientations. Items omitted may appear elsewhere as guidelines or suggestions.

The requirement for six hours of continuing education is omitted, as well as the recommended minimum number of volumes. Also omitted is the requirement to honor other libraries' borrowers' cards and the requirement to maintain a book drop.
Other aspects of the draft on minimum public library standards will be discussed at the Committee's next meeting sometime in January. The Committee found the comments and suggestions from trustees, librarians and other interested persons very helpful. The Committee will be further analyzing the several hundred letters as well as the reports of public hearings to determine what further steps should be taken to strengthen and improve minimum public library standards.

Thanks to all who responded. Your comments were appreciated and useful.

Incidentally, there is a strong commitment and interest in the services of the smaller public libraries, about one-fourth of the Committee being involved with the small public library.

Stanley A. Ransom

LEGISLATION, 1988

The year 1988 will be a most important one for all types of libraries. The NYLA legislative proposal for 1988 requests a 25% increase, amounting to about 36 million dollars. The last increase occurred in 1986, but did not include many necessary library programs.

Since 1986 library needs have increased, reflecting partly on changes in the economic and social scene. The nationwide push for increased literacy programs has fostered an urgent need for continued support in this area. Public library construction funds are continuing to be sought for ramps for the handicapped, for enlargement of space and for rehabilitation of older buildings.

A sharp increase of 53% and 66% in Health Care premiums has caused all agencies in the Empire Plan to re-examine their Health Care coverage or to seek funds to cover these costs.

Another major problem is that costs of heavily used capital equipment, such as delivery vehicles, printing equipment and other equipment have gone up and these items are in need of replacement.

Negotiated staff salaries have increased. There are also added staff salary increases as libraries must pay more to attract new librarians, and they are faced with a growing shortage of librarians for public, school and hospital libraries.

All of the above means that major increases in library support are urgently needed for 1988. We hope our legislators will take these major library needs into consideration in the 1988 Legislative Session.

Stanley A. Ransom

1987 NYLA CONFERENCE

Over 2,000 librarians and trustees and other interested persons attended the 1987 NYLA Conference in Lake Placid on October 21-25th. A record number of exhibitors, close to 200, were on board to display and discuss their wares. Keynote speaker Jimmy Breslin reminisced about his books and his experiences with libraries. Countless programs explored topics from literacy to computers, from children's services to services for the elderly.
C-E-F was much involved as the host library system. C-E-F staff member Carol Bedore, President of Northern Adirondack Library Association, presented an "Adirondack Evening," with Joseph Bruchac telling Indian stories and Bernard Ouimet relating French-Canadian stories and songs. Mary Hopkins assumed the Presidency of NALA at the brief business meeting.

C-E-F Assistant Director Leona Salzman assumed the Presidency of the Public Libraries Section, following a banner year by Elizabeth Stevenson of Finger Lakes Library System.

Lee Salzman was Chair of the NYLA Vitality Fund which presented the "Vitality on Ice" skating program after the banquet.

At the banquet Keela Rogers, former trustee of C-E-F Library System and the NYSALB Board, received the Velma K. Moore award for her outstanding contribution to library service in New York State, a well deserved recognition.

Stanley Ransom, C-E-F Library System Director, was presented with the NYLA Outstanding Service to Libraries Award. He received a plaque and an engraved brass clock.

Leona Salzman received the NYLA Roundtable of Libraries Serving Special Populations Award for her work in expanding and promoting Outreach Services. She has been especially active in literacy and is Chair of the regional PLUS (Project Literacy in the U.S.) campaign.

C-E-F was also involved in Local Arrangements, with Stanley Ransom as Chair of that Committee. Plattsburgh Public Library's Sharon McCausland chaired the Local Arrangements Booth.

Our thanks to the 37 Committee members who contributed their time and effort to making a success of the local arrangements.

Stanley A. Ransom

1987 BLACK POETRY DAY CELEBRATION

Nikki Giovanni presented an outstanding poetry program before an attentive audience of 140 at Plattsburgh State University College on October 16th. She commented on the social scene, as well as reading from her current and forthcoming works.

Bernard Finney, Albany based poet, discussed the writing of poetry and read selections from Black poets before students at the Broad Street School, the Monty Street School, the Middle School and St. John's School in Plattsburgh. Principals, students and teachers were most enthusiastic in their praise for Mr. Finney. His appearance sparked a flurry of poetry writing which the principals hope can be repeated next year on the occasion of Black Poetry Day.

Posters, flyers and bookmarks, as well as a bibliography on Black poets edited by Mary S. Hopkins, were distributed to the State's 733 public libraries through the courtesy of the public library system directors and their delivery services.

A number of evaluation forms from public libraries have been received. We would appreciate any others not yet returned so we can obtain information on how these materials are being used. Those received so far show a need for more bookmarks and flyers. Our current budget did not allow for printing up the required number. We hope for improvement next year.
The Black Poetry Day Celebration was funded by the New York State Council on the Arts, which we deeply appreciate. The appearance of Nikki Giovanni was co-sponsored by the New York State Writers' Institute, based in Albany, and directed by Tom Smith. We appreciate their aid.

My thanks to the Black Poetry Day Committee, and especially to Alexis Levitin, of PSUC, who arranged for posters and for the Orchard Room, where Nikki Giovanni appeared.

Stanley A. Ransom

AIDS WORKSHOP

On Friday, January 15th, from 9:30 a.m. — 12 noon an AIDS Workshop will be held in the C-E-F Library System Meeting Room. The program will be conducted by Tim Palmer, RN, the Coordinator for the Northeastern Council on AIDS and by Marge Wachtmeister, RN, C-E-F staff member in charge of the Rural Health Information Delivery Program.

The program will cover the following:

1. Library Resources on AIDS
   Bibliographies, books, pamphlets and video materials available for libraries to use for staff, trustees and patrons who inquire about AIDS.

2. AIDS in the Workplace
   A discussion of the HIV III virus, how it is contracted, and preventative measures. Working with co-workers who are HIV positive, or who have AIDS.

3. AIDS in the Library
   Serving public patrons who may have AIDS or who are HIV positive. Attitudes, and precautions, if any.

According to Dr. Echols, Albany based specialist on AIDS, the virus causing AIDS will result in 50,000 deaths by 1991. Over two million people are already infected with the HIV virus and this number is expected to increase significantly over the next several years. In our upstate prisons, it is estimated that 50% of prisoners have AIDS.

It is important that librarians and trustees understand the nature of the AIDS virus, how it is transmitted, and precautions to take. It is likely that every librarian will be receiving questions about AIDS. It is also likely that some librarians and co-workers will be exposed to the virus.

This workshop is designed to inform and to allay fears about AIDS in the Library. Please attend this important workshop.

All public librarians and trustees, all school librarians and all correctional librarians and librarians of health care institutions are invited to attend.

Stanley A. Ransom
TRUSTEE AWARD TO JOSEPH F. SHUBERT

Marion Waswo, President of the New York State Association of Library Boards, presented the Distinguished Service Citation to Joseph F. Shubert, New York State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner of Libraries in the New York State Education Department, during the annual New York Library Association Conference at Lake Placid, New York on October 21-25, 1987.

Shubert is responsible for the nation's largest State Library and most comprehensive statewide library development program and played a major role in boosting New York State aid for libraries to $71 million in 1988.

Waswo reported that the trustee award was presented to Shubert in recognition of his support for public library trustees.

SHUBERT ELECTED COSLINE PRESIDENT

Joseph F. Shubert, State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner of Libraries in the New York State Education Department, has been elected president of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies in the Northeast (COSLINE). The organization is composed of the state librarians of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

COSLINE is concerned with State and Federal legislation and programs related to libraries and information services. The organization also sponsors training programs for state library staff in the ten states. Shubert will serve a term beginning in October 1987 and ending September 1989.

TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

C-E-F Board Trustee Emily Castine, who is also Library Media Specialist at Chazy Central Rural School, Chazy, New York, delivered a paper on Canadian Children's Literature at the Sixth Annual Canada Conference held at Plymouth State College, Plymouth, New Hampshire, on November 6. The theme of the conference was North American Educational Perspectives. The keynote speaker was Alan Henrikson, of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, and panel members included: Alberto Campillo, Consul General of Mexico; Dean Lauder, Geography Professor at Laval University and Michael O'Rourke, Market Planning Manager, Canadian National Railways. College Faculty, students, and teachers from New England attended this conference.

Both Emily and Jeanne Kissner, Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Canada - SUNY - Plattsburgh, conducted sessions at this conference.

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Emily has also reviewed the talk given by Canadian Author Gordon Korman at the Lake Placid NYLA Conference for us:

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING IN LAKE PLACID!

I must admit that the highlight of the entire NYLA Conference for me was meeting Canadian children's and young adult author, Gordon Korman. I had heard about this Canadian literary phenomenon and his hilarious books for the last seven years through my studies in Canadian Children's Literature, and I had also seen him on a morning talk show. Needless to say, I would have weathered a blizzard to attend his session.
CEF Director Stan Ransom (foreground) displays his skating skills in New York State.

Former CEF Trustee Keela Rogers of Lake Placid gives an acceptance speech upon receiving the Velma K. Moore Award for her outstanding contributions to library service.

Executive Director, NYLA
Photos courtesy of Nancy Lam

1987 NYLA Conference at Lake Placid
Schroon Lake Public Library
Schroon Lake, New York

The Schroon Lake Public Library is located in the Town Hall.

Assistant Kathleen Whitty chatting with a patron at the circulation desk.

Librarian Marion Bessette.

The card catalog donated to the library by the Martins - their picture is at the right.

Photos by Carol G. Bedore
Why do I call Gordon Korman a phenomenon? Well, this just-turned 24-year-old young man is the author of 12 books! He revealed to us that his first book THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING AT MACDONALD HALL! started out as a 7th grade English assignment and ended up as a full-fledged novel published by Scholastic. By high school graduation, Korman had written and published five other books including GO JUMP IN THE POOL!, BEWARE THE FISH!, and THE WAR WITH MR. WIZZLE. Korman's books are entirely recommendable as they are full of zany antics, lively dialogue, and believable characters, most of whom Korman has known in real life and has interwoven in his novels. The first nine books are aimed at upper elementary and junior high kids, whereas the last three are geared for junior-high and senior-high students.

Korman's audience that evening in Lake Placid was made up of people of all ages, from upper elementary school students, to quite a few grandmothers, and he had all of us in stitches for the duration. He is a born speaker, nary pausing for a particular word or stumbling over a phrase. His smooth delivery and his totally confident manner made him appear much older than he is. Words come easy to this affable author. He shared with us the fact that his mother is considered the "Erma Bombeck" of Montreal, and a reliable authority at the Conference mentioned that Korman's uncle is none other than Mort Sahl!

Korman grew up outside Toronto and did not attend private school, although many of his books have prep school settings. He related that he had wonderful experiences and met many memorable characters during his growing up years to provide a wealth of material for his books. Other titles include: I WANT TO GO HOME!; WHO IS BUGS POTTER?; NO COINS, PLEASE; OUR MAN WESTON; DON'T CARE HIGH; SON OF INTERFLUX; which has won the YASD Best Book for Young Adults, 1986, and his latest work, A SEMESTER IN THE LIFE OF A GARBAGE BAG. His goal is to produce one book a year until ideas run out.

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**MEMBER LIBRARY PROFILE XXII: THE SCHROON LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Editor's Note:** I would like to thank Librarian Marion Bessette for her help in writing this article. I also drew upon a speech given by Town of Schroon Lake Supervisor John Kelly, at the library's memorial dedication ceremony in 1985, for much of the library's history.

The Schroon Lake Library first opened in 1968 as a summer reading room. That was also the year I came to work at C-E-F so the library's history is especially interesting to me; I remember the Schroon Lake Library's evolution.

Schroon Lake itself is one of those picturesque North Country villages which attracts a large number of summer visitors. Schroon Lake had been a C-E-F Bookmobile stop since 1956 (the first bookmobile book was checked out to Dr. Sheridan Albert of Schroon Lake). The reading room started at the American Legion hall to offer service to the increased number of readers during the summertime. Frieda Wilson was the first librarian (she is now a library trustee). Ruth Gillings and Georgiana Martin were her assistants. The C-E-F Library System loaned the reading center 2,000 books every year; these books were returned every fall.

The late John Martin, also a C-E-F Library Trustee (from 1978 to 1984), and his wife, Georgiana (nicknamed "Boots") were moving forces behind the expansion of the library. The year 1973 marked the library's true beginnings as a year-round library housed in the Leland Center, a
community center. Georgiana Martin was librarian at that time, with Leonore Johndrow and Laura Martin, (the Martins' daughter) as her assistants. The library was, in the words of Schroon Lake Town Supervisor John Kelly, "small but proud."

Bookmobile service continued for a few more years (I was librarian on the Bookmobile in those days) but finally the bookmobile stop was permanently moved to nearby Severance.

The new brick Schroon Lake Town Hall was dedicated in 1979 and the library moved into a spacious room on the second floor. A large number of books were donated to the library, including many from John Martin. John built sturdy wooden bookshelves to hold the books. He and Georgiana catalogued the collection, starting with the 2,000 to 3,000 of the Leland Center days to the over 20,000 which the library owned by 1984. The card catalog was also donated by John and Boots.

John Martin worked constantly to get the Schroon Lake Library chartered by the State of New York. The library finally received its charter in September 1984, after five years probation.

John Martin died in 1985. In the spring of that year the Schroon Lake Public Library was dedicated in his memory — there is a commemorative plaque in his honor at the entrance to the library. There is also a picture of the Martins near the circulation desk.

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Marion Bessette has been the librarian since 1983. Kathleen Whitty is her assistant and Leonore Johndrow still helps out in July and August. Marion's daughter, Kathy, whom I remember as a schoolchild from my bookmobile days, has helped out at the library too and is a frequent visitor there — with her own child.

The library is a busy place, and now circulates over 13,000 books per year. Marion reported that the library's participation in the recent "American Dreams" lecture series (part of the Essex Humanities Series directed by Abby Zito through C-E-F) was very successful.

Marion encourages the use of the library by local students and she finds the library is very busy on Friday night with students using the reference collection. To further encourage scholarship the library gives annual recognition awards at graduation time to the student who has used the library reference collection the most. A student from the Mountainside Christian School and a student from Schroon Lake Central School each receive a $25 award.

The library also holds a weekly story hour for kids, pre-school through grades three, on a morning outside of regular library hours, where the kids can have the library to themselves. Betsi Calhoun leads the story hour. In addition to stories, a film is shown every week and there are regular holiday parties.

While the library is important as a learning place, Marion also wants young children to find it "a fun place."

Mary S. Hopkins

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REMEMBER

THE DEADLINE FOR THE TRAILBLAZER NEWS FOR THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY ISSUE IS MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1988

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HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

LEE SALZMAN REPORTS:

On Monday, December 14, C-E-F will conduct a half-day workshop entitled "Libraries and Literacy." The goals of this workshop are: (1) to build awareness of the problem of illiteracy and its impact on library services, (2) to encourage increased cooperation between member libraries and literacy programs and (3) to promote volunteerism. This program is part of C-E-F's Title VI Library Literacy project.

As part of a Statewide program through the New York State Education Department, our region will benefit from the services of 1 of 16 VISTA Volunteers. This volunteer will assist in the development, implementation and monitoring of local goals and objectives as related to Project Literacy U.S./"New York—You Can Read" activities. As convener for the North Country Literacy Coalition, C-E-F will serve as the supervising agency in cooperation with WCFE-TV.

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Thanks to library volunteer Sue McCann, our annotated/pictorial catalog for our Toy Lending Library located at Plattsburgh Public Library should soon become a reality. With the distribution of this catalog, libraries and agencies throughout the North Country will have access to toys which can aid in the development of disabled and non-disabled children. Thanks also to Ann Hobson of C-E-F and Karen Ricketson of PPL for their dedicated work on this project.

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In celebration of Deaf Heritage Month 1987 (December) and Deaf Heritage Week (December 6-12), C-E-F has distributed an activities planning guide to all of our member libraries. This year's celebration is highlighted by the 200th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Gallaudet (December 10), deaf educator and namesake of the only liberal arts university for the deaf, Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C.

NEWS FROM THE AUTOMATION DEPARTMENT

We are now holding workshops prior to automating 6 more member libraries. This brings the total of libraries which have been invited to these workshops to 23. As of this writing we plan to invite the remaining 6 libraries as soon as possible. However, due to our work schedules, this will probably not be until next spring.

As of this writing 14 libraries have their Apple IIe computers installed. Eight of these are fully equipped to run the HOBO interlibrary loan mailbox program. Three others were set up to run HOBO on the Tandy system earlier. Two of the libraries now have the Quick Card cataloging facility.

We are pleased with the reception everyone has given to this computerization project, and the patience everyone has shown. It takes time to get all the bugs ironed out, but we will succeed. Hang in there.

Hugh Starke
Administrative Assistant

NEWS FROM REFERENCE AND INTERLIBRARY LOAN

We all survived NYLA, and enjoyed the conference very much. The exhibits were (as usual) fascinating—a great chance to see what's new in equipment and technology, and to find out who's going to be publishing what. We were elegantly wined and dined by exhibitors, and entertained and enlightened by NYLA.

The Local Arrangements booth was a lot of work, but we answered many questions. It seemed odd not to keep track of how many questions we were asked, and not to have an interrupting telephone ringing while we were answering people's questions. It was a good reference experience for all.
Once the conference ended it was back to our own reference questions. We're starting to get our holiday queries—no, I can't spoil the Christmas surprises we've been finding instructions for. Let's just say there are plenty of projects in the works in the C-E-F area.

School projects are in full swing, too. Plenty of term papers on plenty of topics—and there's still time before the semester ends! We've found information on everything from hydroponic gardening, to schizophrenia, to Mark Anthony and Cleopatra, to Woodstock. Reference work is certainly educational for those of us filling requests.

To help us in our never ending search for materials, we're installing a CD-ROM player in the Reference Department. The product we'll be using is Brodart's Le Pac, and represents a major step in regional interlibrary lending.

The North Country Library System (based in Watertown) has created a CD-ROM data base containing the holdings of its 63 member libraries. We're hoping that 1988 will see the addition of the school library systems and partial holdings of the C-E-F system. This will be of great use in identifying libraries in our region who own a particular item, as well as providing us with subject access to collections in the region. All of these technological advances contribute to our goal of faster turn-around time in interlibrary loan.

As winter progresses and the snow flies, we keep ourselves warm by working on new projects.

Elizabeth Rogers
Head of Reference and Interlibrary Loan

NEW FILMS AT C-E-F

One Generation is Not Enough 23 minutes. Color.

One generation is not enough to perfect the art of violin-making as the family of Max Friirsz has practiced it for nearly 200 years. We witness the loving labor that Friirsz and his son display as they turn raw wood into a musical instrument.

Part of Your Loving 9 minutes. Color.

This film focuses on baker Ben Togati who brings the breadmaking process to life with his hands.

Seasons of the Elk 20 minutes. Color.

Spring breaks and we see a newborn elk calf with its mother in a mountain meadow. Through the summer the calves grow — when fall and winter comes we see the elk herd migrating to lower meadows. A good story of big game management through the four seasons.

The Sun's Gonna Shine 10 minutes. Color.

This lyrical film recreates Lightnin' Hopkins' decision at the age of eight to stop chopping cotton and sing for his living.

Old Dry Frye 29 minutes. Color.

An Appalachian folktale that revolves around a traveling preacher. While enjoying a chicken dinner with a farm family he chokes on a bone. A comedy of errors unfolds as each family in the community comes to feel they caused the death of Preacher Frye.
Shrinking of Treehorn

A delightful animated presentation of a boy who finds little help from the world of grown-ups when he discovers he is shrinking. It teaches the importance of listening and what it feels like when people don't take our problems seriously.

Someone's in the Kitchen with Jamie

Jamie is concerned that his mother, the family's sole support, will lose her teaching job if her home economics class doesn't reach its registration quota. He convinces the guys on his baseball team to sign up.

Statue of Liberty

A compelling film that explores the history of the statue and the meaning of liberty on the occasion of the statue's renovation.

Marie D. Chauvin
Head, Film Department

JEIC NEWS

We are pleased to welcome Paula Jenkins to our staff to replace Betty Collins. Betty left us in September to attend school in Albany in pursuit of a degree in Library Science. We wish Betty the best and are happy to have Paula join us.

Kathie Labombard
JEIC Librarian

NORTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

On October 22nd at 2:45 p.m. the members of NALA began to gather in the promenade of the Lake Placid Hilton to help set up for "An Adirondack Evening." Mary Hopkins, Linda Masters, Todd and Mary Ellen Martin, Tracey LaBarge, Karen Ricketson, June Pajak, Violet Feazelle and myself, all eager to begin. Todd Martin opened a closet and there was a pile of wood that he and Mary Ellen quickly assembled into quilt frames. The Raquette River Quilters arrived with 25 handmade quilts; 18 of which were hastily placed in frames. The other 7 quilts were hung from the cathedral ceiling; thanks to Brian Pytlak who bravely ascended a broken ladder. The apple display (Brian and Cindy Pytlak), the beekeeping display (Emma Mahoney) with free samples of their wares, were placed in their respective positions. Later, Margaret Jacobs and Bea Cole arrived with the basket display from Akwesasne, one of which was to be given away in a free drawing. A sigh of relief — our speakers arrived and all was in readiness.

Joseph Bruchac told Adirondack tales of logging and Indian legends that had his audience enthralled. Bernard Ouimet then sang French-Canadian songs that told of love and tragedy. Over 500 people were there to enjoy "An Adirondack Evening."

All in all it was an event to be remembered — my thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make everything work so well.
At the fall business meeting that preceded "An Adirondack Evening" the following officers were elected:

Mary Hopkins, President
Nancy Loper, Vice-President
Linda Masters, Recording Secretary
Kathy Cayea, Corresponding Secretary
Karen Ricketson, Treasurer

The members of NALA can look forward to an exciting future with this kind of leadership.

Carol Bedore
Past President

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AKWESASNE LIBRARY
CULTURAL CENTER

Akwesasne Library has recently acquired four new glass display cases which are being used for special displays in the library.

One case will house the Iroquoian artifacts which are a permanent collection of the Akwesasne Museum. Another features the mastery of basketry skills of the Akwesasne Mohawk basketmakers. These baskets are from the Akwesasne Museum collection and were assembled by museum director, Donna Cole.

A third case designed by Beatrice Cole features books about Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, complete with a statue of her which will become a permanent exhibit.

A special case is provided for a changing exhibit which will be used to display private collections of area residents. There will be a monthly fee to exhibit in this area. In order to present special collections, residents are asked to sign up at the library.

Recently this case featured a collection of frogs owned by Corrine White of Frogtown, who has been collecting frogs for about 18 years.

Approximately 50 different frogs were on display. The frogs are made of gold, silver, wood, ceramic, cast-iron, fabric and glass. A treasure of her collection is an antique frog toothpick holder of some value to collectors.

Other scheduled collections include, in November, a collection of turtles by Heather McDonald, and in December, a collection of owls by Monica White.

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

A successful lecture series funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and sponsored by the C-E-F Library System has been held this fall on Tuesday evenings at the AuSable Forks Free Library, beginning in mid-September. Guest lecturers on the theme "Upward Bound" have brought interesting lectures to a receptive audience, with lively discussions during the coffee hour which followed. A large number of books were checked out for each lecture, with participants from Keene to Keeseville and Wilmington to Wadhams, as well as the local AuSable Forks and Jay communities.

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Another focal point of interest at the Library has been the display case in the Giltz Room. During the summer a unique exhibit of jewelry, clothing, coins, handicrafts, alabaster and pictures from Afghanistan was presented by Trustee Ann Straight. Mrs. Straight's daughter and family spent some time in Afghanistan several years ago, before a military coup closed the country to visitors. Currently a collection of thimbles ... silver, wooden,
ceramic, crocheted, pictorial, antique, floral, birds, animals . . . from many states and countries . . . is being shown by AuSable Forks resident, Margaret Bombard.

****

Every Tuesday afternoon the pupils of grades K-3 of the Holy Name School cross the street to the AuSable Forks Library for an hour of story-telling by Library volunteers, Evelyn Marks and Carol Ward. The students are then given time to choose and check out books. Once a month a film is shown on a Friday afternoon to this same group by volunteer, Connie Main. Recently Holy Name teacher, Karen Urtz took her 3rd grade class on a field trip to the Library, where Librarian Barbara Pelkey explained her work, the set-up and resources of the library and demonstrated the use of the card catalog.

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Two new Trustees were welcomed at a recent Board meeting. Daniel McDonald of Jay replaces long-time trustee, Helen Douglass and Rosemarie Schoonmaker will complete the term of Norah Horstmyer, who resigned to become Library Treasurer.

BELDEN NOBLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
ESSEX

Board Chair Fern Cunnion reports:

A wide variety of activities marked a busy 1987 summer season for the Belden Noble Memorial Library.

The library was open every weekday afternoon during July and August thanks to volunteer attendants. Many summer visitors to the hamlet, including ferry foot passengers from Vermont, took time to inspect our facilities and sign the guest book.

Two cookie sales and a book sale were held. "Open House," with refreshments, was a feature of the annual Downtown Essex Day event. The "Mile of Pennies" drive, inaugurated in 1984, reached 59 percent of its goal.

Members of the Essex Senior Citizens group helped set up and man the Hobby Horse craft shop, profits from which help support the library. The Senior Citizens also held a bake sale and donated the money towards a computer stand in the library.

The annual fund drive proved a success. In addition, donations have been given in memory of two former residents. Bookplates naming the donors will be placed in books purchased with these funds. A number of new books also were purchased to meet the continuing demands of children and teenagers.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Director Dave Minnich reports:

Probably the most enjoyable episode in library activity occurred this past summer when a mother and a grandmother came in with two children, approximately 6 and 8 years old. They were travelers from Ohio with local roots. The grandmother was particularly interested in genealogical research, and so the other three indulged in their own pursuits. As they prepared to leave, the mother gave the Director this observation: "The library we have at home is in rather drab surroundings, but the children's librarian enlivens the institution and makes it wonderful. These youngsters have been in and out of so many court-houses, museums and libraries that they were somewhat glum, if not resigned, at the prospect of visiting another institution. But they definitely enjoyed it. We thought we had the best librarian in the world, until tonight. We'll have to rethink that belief." Of course, we all appreciate having the ego stroked, and probably that's why this individual enjoyed that unsolicited comment.

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Libraries do have economic impact. One patron from the St. Regis Falls area is convinced that we saved his family $500.
In late September, the patron was notified by the revenuers that unless a particular IRS form was filed within a given deadline, dire consequences would occur. Actually, half the refund that might have been received was gone, but if that form was submitted forthwith, the patron would receive the balance of the refund, in spite of extremely tardy filing, and would escape various and sundry penalties. The question? Where to find the form in a hurry. One of the small stores in the St. Regis Falls area supplied the answer: "Go to the Wead Library in Malone. They have everything!" Fortunately, in this case, "they" had the necessary form, even though "everything" is hyperbole.

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September proved that school has started, because we've had three class visits—library orientation sessions—from various schools. Of course, our reference work has increased. This fall, we've had a number of older adult returnees to college who have needed a refresher course in library usage.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

Librarian Betty Vogan reports:

The annual Fall Fund Drive began during October with a door-to-door canvass of the area. The drive has been going well.

Friends of the Library sponsored a successful library lawn sale on Labor Day and decided to make it an annual event. They also instituted a pumpkin-decorating contest for children up to 13 years. Prizes were awarded Saturday, October 31 at the library.

When Mooers Library receives its Apple IIc computer and printer, the children's area of the library is to be moved downstairs.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Children's Librarian Karen Ricketson reports:

The NYLA Conference was an extremely busy one for me this year! I participated in three programs.

Jane Sweeney and I presented a program together called: Can We Talk?; School Librarians & Public Librarians Working Together. Jane is a School Library Media Specialist at Cumberland Head School and I might also mention, is a member of the Plattsburgh Board of Trustees.

Our program's main emphasis was on how the Northern Adirondack Library Association had encouraged such a sharing relationship to develop. We also shared with the group specific ideas and materials that Jane and I have shared between our libraries.

The program was so well received that Jane and I have been asked to do a repeat performance at one of the upcoming CHAIN School Library System meetings.

I was also part of a panel presentation for Youth Service providers. I shared with the group how to set up an arts & crafts program for children like we have at the public library. I even had some craft ideas and patterns to hand out so they could go back to their libraries and begin their own program right away!

The last program I helped out with was NALA's Adirondack Evening.

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The children's programs are in full swing for the fall/winter season at the public library.

The programs include: a weekly pre-school Story Time, Afterschool Crafts, Saturday Movies and so far, 22 class visits!

It looks like a busy fall for the children and children's librarian.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

"Gail Jones Sampler," a mixed media exhibit of works by Gail Whyte Jones, opened October 19, in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library. This unusual show featured sculptured...
miniatures, including a dollhouse Christmas vignette, which was displayed upstairs in the children's section of the library.

Another showcase featured Charlie Chaplin, Michael Jackson, and other celebrities. Watercolors, pen and ink drawings, photographs, and jewelry were also shown. The show ran through November 13.

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Brown bag luncheon discussion programs presented by the Saranac Lake Free Library began on October 22. Opening the season was Lisa Forrest, public relations director of the General Hospital of Saranac Lake. Her topic was "What's New at the Hospital." On November 5, Barbara Friend related some of her experiences as a criminal lawyer and on November 19, Postmaster John F. Campion fielded questions from the group. On December 3 Karl Young, local manufacturer, will discuss his reasons for locating his factory in Saranac Lake, and December 17, Ellie LeNoble will bring a Dutch touch with a program about holidays in Holland. All participants are asked to bring soup or a sandwich for the noon event. Dessert and beverage will be provided by the library.

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"The Adirondacks" a film commissioned by the Adirondack Museum, was shown at the first evening program of the fall, October 29. On November 19, Chuck Brumley presented "Projects in Adirondack History," with students from his Adirondack history class at North Country Community College. The library has invited members of the local media to attend an open forum on their services to the community. This will take place on Thursday, December 10.

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Father Fredrick Dennis and Helen Todd, representing St. Luke's Episcopal Church, recently presented a check for $500 to Betsy Beggs, librarian at the Saranac Lake Free Library, to be used to purchase books on alcoholism and the family. Fr. Dennis and Ms. Todd presented the check on behalf of the outreach committee of the Episcopal Church of St. Luke the Beloved Physician. The committee hopes to provide information on alcoholism, which affects one out of three adult Americans negatively by bringing trouble on their families as a result of alcohol abuse. Among the books that will be purchased are "It'll Never Happen to Me," "I'll Quit Tomorrow," and "Raising Drug-Free Kids."

BLACK WATCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY
TICONDEROGA

A free lecture series focusing on the literature of American character began on September 24 at Ticonderoga's Black Watch Library.

The five-part program, "A Woman's Place" began with a discussion of the 1848 Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions. The session was led by Dr. Anita Rapone, Professor of History, SUNY, Plattsburgh.

This humanities series is part of the "American Dream" program of readings, lectures and public discussions being held in 28 public libraries in central and northern New York. Project Director is Abby Zito of Middlebury, Vermont. All of the guest speakers are humanities scholars in a variety of fields.

Other lectures in the program included the text "Tell Me A Riddle" by Tillie Olsen, with a lecture by Dr. Ingrun LaFleur, Vice President for Academic Affairs, SUNY, Plattsburgh, on October 8.

On October 22, Dr. Brett Miller, Department of American Literature, Middlebury College, lectured on "The Awakening" by Kate Chopin. The text for November 5 was selected poems of Emily Dickinson. The lecture was provided and discussion was led by Professor Stephen Donadio, Department of American Literature and Civilization, Middlebury College.

On Thursday, November 19, Dr. Joseph Bruchac, writer and editor, lectured on "Love Medicine" by Louis Erdrich.

The newly formed organization, "Friends of the Black Watch Library" assisted in the lecture programs.

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Black Watch Memorial Library is one of the forty-eight libraries in New York State which will receive free videocassette recorders — a Carnegie Corporation birthday gift that brings Andrew Carnegie's library philanthropy into the video age.

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The libraries selected to receive the VCR's are among the 1,681 U.S. public libraries built in the 1900's with grants from Carnegie, who believed that libraries are the "university of the people."

In keeping with the original "self-help" spirit of Carnegie's philanthropy, libraries receiving VCR's have agreed to match the gift with a TV monitor or $300 in special interest/educational video.

The gift of video equipment is part of a package of programs and services made possible by a $600,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation in honor of its 75th birthday in 1986.

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
TUPPER LAKE

The Adirondack Economic Development Corporation is holding a nine-week series of business oriented seminars which started on October 2 and will continue through December 16.

The seminars are being held in the Community Room of the Goff-Nelson Library in Tupper Lake from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on consecutive Wednesdays.

Guest speakers have been recruited from area accountants, lawyers, and successful business people.

The $40 fee includes all sessions and course materials. The seminar series has been co-sponsored jointly by the Adirondack Economic Development Corporation, North Country Community College, the Economic Development & Technical Assistance Center, SUNY Plattsburgh.

The seminars are designed as a practical approach to developing and monitoring a viable business plan which can be tailored to suit individual needs.

Individual counseling will be available, and the series is sufficiently flexible to accommodate the needs of participants who already are in business.

DODGE LIBRARY, WEST CHAZY

Librarian Bev Reed reports:

We would like to welcome our three new trustees to our Library Board of Trustees here at the Dodge Library in West Chazy.

Mrs. Evelyn Lushia — is originally from Dunoon, Scotland. She met and married her husband Emery, there over 17 years ago. He was stationed there in the Navy. They have two children, Warren 16, and Dawn 13. Mrs. Lushia was one of the founding members of the West Chazy P.T.O., and was president of that organization for five years. She has been involved in the youth commission, here, for five years. She has also been active with the girl scouts for seven years and three of those years, she has been a troop leader. Mrs. Lushia was assistant librarian at our Dodge Library for two years. She is employed at Brean and Deno's Country Store. Welcome Evelyn!

Mr. Philip Welch — is originally from the Chicago area. He was stationed in the Air Force in Plattsburgh. In 1971 his enlistment was over, and he decided to stay here in our North Country. He then went back to college at PSUC for a master's degree. In 1973 he went to work at Clinton Correctional Facility. He is now Senior Corrections Counselor there at the facility. He resides in West Chazy with his wife Jean and daughter Meghan, who is 9 years old. Welcome Philip!

Mrs. Joy Jubert — was born and raised in Plattsburgh. Mrs. Jubert has lived in West Chazy, along with her husband Virgil, for 41 years. They have four children, Paul, Melody (Eichler), Holly (Castine) and Ronald. They have six grandchildren. Mrs. Jubert has worked for the Keeseville National Bank for 22 years. She is presently employed at the Chazy Branch and is assistant cashier and Branch manager. Welcome Joy!
The Friends of the Library is planning the annual Christmas Holiday Exhibit on December 5; this exhibit features holiday crafts.

The Friends of the Paine Memorial Library are sponsoring a special Holiday raffle. Several handcrafted items will be raffled off on December 18, at the Paine Memorial Library. The chances are only $1.00 each and you could very well be the winner of a prize of great value. Tickets are available from members of the Friends group and at the Library. One does not have to be present at the drawing on December 18 to be the winners.

The prizes are all made by members of the Friends group. The items included are some handmade knitted garments (one is a sweater), a Christmas arrangement, a Christmas wreath, and a 12 inch crocheted dog. We are hopeful that many of you will be supportive of this project. The Friends do raise money to assist in the many programs that we have at the library. The Friends do put the added touches to all of our events, so it is important that they continue to have money available to assist when needed.

Janet Tucker, our assistant, is recovering nicely from her recent illness. She is now able to spend a few hours a week at the library.
"Santa Claus Can't Say That I've Forgotten Anything," by Thomas Nast.