



C-E-F TRAILBLAZER

Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System News

"First Multi-County Library System in New York State"

STANLEY A. RANSOM
Director

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Vol. 15, No. 4

Fall, 1988

ANNUAL MEETING, 1988: A REPORT

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System held its 34th Annual Meeting on August 1, 1988 at the Comfort Inn in Plattsburgh.

Jim Arnosky was the guest speaker. Mr. Arnosky is an author/illustrator and naturalist; he also appeared in a four-part PBS television series, "Drawing from Nature," which aired last fall. He has written many successful books for children -- although his books on nature appeal to all age groups.

At the C-E-F luncheon, Mr. Arnosky gave a delightful talk on his hikes through fields and woodland -- and on his various canine comrades who accompanied him on these journeys. Guests at the luncheon meeting were also able to chat freely with Mr. Arnosky during the autographing session.

The Richard W. Lawrence Award, was presented to Janice Allen, Director of the Paine Memorial Library in Willsboro by C-E-F Board Trustee Fern Cunnion of Essex. Janice received a handsome desk set as part of her award.

The Richard W. Lawrence Award was established in 1979 (in honor of Richard Lawrence, the first president of the C-E-F Board) to honor "an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the development of library service in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin County area." Janice Allen has been active in the C-E-F System for many years and is a founder and co-chair of the newly formed Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Directors' Association (CEFDA). She has initiated a variety of services and programs at Willsboro -- including art exhibits, lecture series and craft fairs -- since she became librarian in 1970. In 1981 she received the prestigious L. Marion Moshier/Asa Wynkoop Award at the New York Library Association Convention. (This award is given annually for outstanding achievement by a librarian in a community of under 7500 people). Janice has also been appointed to the special State committee which is studying library systems.

Congratulations, Janice, on a well-deserved award!

Mary Kay Rillahan received a \$100 award, on behalf of the Peru Free Library,

which is given yearly to libraries which have expanded their service area.

A drawing for the \$100 award given annually to enable a member librarian to attend NYLA was won by Kay LeClair, of Wells Memorial Library in Upper Jay.

Approximately 116 public and school librarians, library trustees and interested members of the public turned out for this event.

Mary Shaw Hopkins
Editor

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The C-E-F Board of Trustees and Staff have faced many challenges in the past years, but none so critical as the current lack of funding. This has resulted in staff terminations and reductions in service. Our member libraries and the CSEA unit have cooperated to help us balance the budget for 1989. We thank you. We hope that the State Legislature will act to pass a Library Omnibus Bill next year which will allow us to restore some of the curtailed services.

In the meantime the Trailblazer will be reduced in size and will also become a quarterly with shorter articles.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

BLACK POETRY DAY

Black Poetry Day will again be celebrated on Monday, October 17th, this year. We are issuing a new colorful poster designed by Rick Salzman, a list of ideas, a list of Black poets, a sample proclamation and an evaluation sheet. These are being distributed to public libraries throughout New York State through the courtesy of the public library system directors. The New York State Council on the Arts has supplied the major funding, with additional contributions so far from the New York State Writers' Institute and the Plattsburgh Student Music Council.

Here in Plattsburgh we are planning for an evening of poetry and jazz music at 7:30 p.m. in Hartman Theatre at SUNY Plattsburgh featuring Imamu Baraka and the Blue Ark jazz group.

Stanley A. Ransom

PLANNING, ROLE SETTING AND MINIMUM STANDARDS WORKSHOP

Thanks to a \$1,000 grant from the Public Libraries Section of NYLA we will be presenting a Planning and Standards Workshop on Monday, September 19th, at the C-E-F System. Featured speaker will be Claudya Muller, Director of the Suffolk Cooperative Library System, who worked on the ALA Task Force which resulted in the publication of Charles McClure's "Planning and Role Setting for Public Libraries." Copies of this publication have already been purchased under the grant and distributed to our member libraries.

Mrs. Muller will be speaking on "Planning and Role Setting for Rural Public Libraries." This will be an important workshop for all libraries, since the new minimum public library standards, when approved, will require written plans of service by all public libraries. Member library directors are asked to bring their planning book to the workshop, also copies of any long-range plans they may be working on.

Stanley Ransom, C-E-F Director, will discuss meeting the new minimum public library standards. Both he and Mrs. Muller are members of the Minimum Public Library Standards Committee. All member library directors and their trustees are urged to attend this workshop, which will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Stanley A. Ransom

WAVERLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Waverly Public Library reading center has been established in the community of St. Regis Falls, in Franklin County. The reading center was created by the Waverly Town Board, whose Supervisor is Raymond Susice. The Town has made available the first floor of a former bank building, and books are now being collected and staff trained for the new library. A C-E-F consultant team visited the library and worked with a team of local volunteers to catalog the books.

Stanley A. Ransom

KING RESEARCH STUDY REPORT

A preliminary report on their findings and recommendations concerning library systems in New York State will be presented by King Research from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. on September 30th. The presentation will take place at the Noble Center of St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y. All who are interested in discussion of the findings are urged to attend.

Stanley A. Ransom

1988 NYLA CONFERENCE

The NYLA Conference will be held on October 12 to 16 in Buffalo. This year's conference is filled with a number of important meetings and programs. The new minimum public library standards will be discussed. There will also be programs on legislation, and a chance to talk to some of our state legislators. Plan to attend if you can.

Stanley A. Ransom

MINIMUM PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS

The Standards Committee has released the proposed standards, which are now being discussed. The ten standards, and accompanying recommendations, will be considered at the NYLA Conference and will be presented to the Board of Regents this fall. If approved, they are scheduled to go into effect January 1, 1989.

Of all the standards, number S5 has caused the most concern to smaller public libraries. This standard would require libraries serving populations up to 2,499 persons to be directed by a librarian with an MLS degree by the year 2,000. The Standards Committee itself was sharply divided on this issue, but the majority voted to approve it.

I have proposed that this standard be modified to allow library directors of these smaller libraries to obtain either an MLS degree or a Continuing Education Certificate, or be working towards one. The Certificate would allow attendance at library system workshops, courses at local community colleges, attendance at NYLA Continuing Education workshops and State Library institutes to count toward the Certificate, which would take five years or 150 contact hour credits to achieve. What do you think of this idea? Please let me know.

Stanley A. Ransom

TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

Sandra Bullard was appointed to the C-E-F Board of Trustees by the Essex County Board of Supervisors to fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Rev. Anne West of Schroon Lake.

Sandra Bullard, a resident of Schroon Lake, moved there a year ago from Syracuse, N.Y. where she had been employed for nine years as a departmental academic secretary in the School of Management at Syracuse University. Although her major preoccupation now is enjoying the beauty of the Adirondacks with her husband, she also spends time editing academic manuscripts -- a natural outgrowth of her recent employment.

She has bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from Syracuse and was employed as a music teacher in the Baldwinsville Central School system for five years.

Her love for books and libraries began as a child when she was first introduced to the small public library in her home town, Elbridge, N.Y. She has been an avid reader ever since and has most recently focused her interest on English and American literature.

Her husband, Greg, is a retired library administrator, having been employed as Associate Director of Libraries for Technical and Automated Services, first at SUNY Binghamton and then Syracuse University.

Sandra and Greg belong to the International Churchill Society and have many memorable slides of their trips to England, which highlighted spots of historical interest relevant to Sir Winston's life and career. In addition, they both have an interest in fine art, particularly Impressionism, and have visited major galleries in London, Paris and Amsterdam.

Their indoor hours are mainly devoted to music and reading; they own a sizable personal library devoted primarily to twentieth century British history and politics, Churchill first editions and Churchilliana, and also literature and art history. They also enjoy a personal record collection encompassing a large portion of the operatic repertoire, symphonic, chamber and vocal music.

Their plans for the future include additional European travel and many leisurely day trips exploring and photographing the wonders of the Adirondack Mountains.

VERNA L. PUNGITORE WINS A 1988 RESEARCH PAPER AWARD

Verna L. Pungitore, assistant professor for the School of Library and Information Science, Indiana University, was named one of the winners of the 1988 Research Paper Award granted by the Association for Library and Information Science Education. Her paper was titled "The Flow of Information among Public Library Directors and Library Change Agents."

Pungitore studied the ways in which information is currently being disseminated among public library directors and selected change agencies. The directors of 150 public libraries located in one midwestern state and serving populations of under 100,000 were surveyed by mail concerning their perceptions of the effectiveness of the change agencies and of a number of communication channels, methods and media. The study identified a number of significant relationships that suggest smaller public libraries may well represent the "have nots" within the profession in terms of access to information.

from Public Libraries
Summer 1988

Verna was formerly a reference librarian at C-E-F and, later, Director of the Plattsburgh Public Library.

CLINTON COUNTY: A PICTORIAL HISTORY

Kathy Cayea, Director of Plattsburgh Public Library, will host an autograph party for Clinton County: a pictorial history on Wednesday, September 14th at 7:00 p.m. For this evening only the cost of this bicentennial celebration book is \$25 + tax (\$1.76). The regular price is \$35. If you have already purchased the book and would like to have your copy autographed that evening, plan to stop by and visit with the authors: Helen Allan, Carol Bedore, Allan Everest and Mary Leggett.

Refreshments will be served.

Carol G. Bedore

REMINDER

THE DEADLINE FOR NEWS FOR THE
WINTER ISSUE OF THE TRAILBLAZER
IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1988.

MEMBER LIBRARY PROFILE

Because of the C-E-F budget cutbacks we are temporarily suspending our Member Library Profile segment and the accompanying photo page. We expect to resume this series when our financial situation improves. To those libraries which have not yet been covered, rest assured that we have not forgotten you!

HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

LEE SALZMAN REPORTS:

With support from an LSCA Title I grant, C-E-F will soon be assisting in providing an alternative form of training for literacy tutors and students through instructional television. Teach an Adult to Read, a five-part series for tutors and tutor trainers, will begin broadcast on WCFE-TV on Wednesday, September 21. Another Page, a 15-part series designed to help adults who can't read well enough to cope with everyday tasks at home and in the workplace will begin broadcast in October. Viewers will have the opportunity to learn in the privacy of their homes at their own pace. Our anticipated outcome is that this at-home exposure to tutor training and adult basic education instruction "without strings attached" will encourage individuals to contact local libraries and literacy providers. A limited quantity of free workbooks will be available to accompany each series. For more information on these programs, contact the System's Literacy Hotline, 1-800-221-1980.

Under a Gannett Literacy Challenge Program grant awarded to New York State, Literacy Caucuses will be held in this region at which learners and teachers/tutors will have an opportunity to discuss the needs

and issues affecting adult literacy programs. The recommendations resulting from these regional caucuses will be presented by two local literacy teachers/tutors and two learners at a State-wide Literacy Convention planned for February 1989. Plans are underway from these regional meetings, and among the planners are Lee Salzman of C-E-F and Mike Kulik, VISTA volunteer. We hope to conduct the caucuses in early October so that a timely voter education component can be included.

Leona Salzman
Assistant Director/
Head of Outreach

OUTREACH NEWS

The bookmobile staff has been enjoying the busy period that hot weather usually brings. Fortunately, they are treated to cold drinks by the same thoughtful patrons who warm them up with cocoa and cookies in the winter. Who needs air conditioning and a reliable generator! Over 50 children participated in "Champy's Treasure Hunt" which was the bookmobile version of the "Rapt in Mystery" summer reading program.

before by having a mission. Dr. Charles Garfield, author of the book, Peak Performers, gives an enthusiastic and entertaining presentation to help everyone

realize their potential. All are available through the C-E-F Film Department.

Kathie LaBombard
JEIC Librarian

FILMS PURCHASED WITH NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FUNDS, 1987

Notes on Seeing -- Stimulating Creativity in Children

30 minutes.

Color.

Dorothy Medhurst a most extraordinary art teacher teaches youngsters to perceive the excitement and beauty of life around them. At the Art Gallery she involves the children in both art and nature.

Post Industrial Fiddle

23 minutes.

Color.

Gerry Morell, a mason at a pulp mill in Maine, examines the relationship of his work and his music. He explains how his fiddle music provides a meaningful escape from job pressures.

Rich

20 minutes.

Black & white

The story of a high school senior determined to leave his inner city neighborhood and go to college despite his mother's desire for him to accept a menial job that she thinks will insure his security.

Sara and Maybelle

10 minutes.

Black & white

Sara and Maybelle, two members of the original Carter Family, demonstrate their famous guitar picking style and harmony singing.

Songs of Wool: Vena Tipton's Hooked Rugs

18 minutes.

Color.

An intimate portrait of a 91-year old Oklahoma folk artist who has truly woven her life experiences into her rugs and tapestries.

Thriller

34 minutes.

Black & white

This film by Sally Potter tells the story of the Opera La Bohème from a seamstress - heroine's point of view.

Timepiece

10 minutes.

Color.

A short film of imagery and satire about a young executive caught in the urban rat race.

Valerie, A Woman, An Artist, A Philosophy of Life

15 minutes.

Color.

An intimate look at gifted sculptor Valerie Maynard, which examines both her work and her creative process.

Wizard of the String

27 minutes.

Color.

Roy Smeck who became known as "The Wizard of the Strings" displays his virtuosity on the guitar, banjo, ukelele and Hawaiian guitar. Today, at 84 Smeck remains active by teaching students and giving occasional public performances.

Marie D. Chauvin
Head, Film Department

Thanks to C-E-F Children's Consultant Kathie LaBombard, and her map drawing skills, for coordinating this special program.

Several stop changes went into effect with the new bookmobile schedules on July 1. These changes were suggested by the Outreach Consultants who studied C-E-F's bookmobile service in April, with the intent of improving our circulation. We are now offering extended service to area senior residence complexes -- with the addition of Roderick Rock Apartments, in Morrisonville, Apple Valley Senior Housing in Peru, and a Flynn Avenue stop, the bookmobile directly serves a total of seven senior complexes in our 3 county area.

The "old bookmobile" (we make no secret of her age, as she has survived 12 years of heavy usage) was decked out in full glory to participate in the Imagination Celebration parade on June 11. Driver Mike Pavone generously gave up his Saturday to wave and tie balloons.

The Programs About Life Collection for teens is ready for loan. Member libraries will receive bibliographies of the books featured in each segment of the collection as soon as the lists are compiled. Some PAL books were used in the Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library summer reading program. It is not necessary to host a formal evening program to receive these collections -- however, it is important that they are used. Please contact me to arrange for the loan of the books of your choice.

Julie Wever
Outreach Librarian

NEWS FROM REFERENCE AND INTERLIBRARY LOAN

It's been a busy time in our department -- July has become one of our busiest months. This summer many of our libraries' and bookmobile patrons have been reading mysteries like mad, along with the usual bestsellers.

One of the most heavily requested books of the year has been Danielle Steel's Zoya -- a runaway, with more than 40 requests for the book. Hopefully patrons have other books to read while they wait for their turn.

We're excited to add the final member libraries to our electronic mail system -- we now have 25 libraries accessible by Hobo. This enables us to make some changes in our interlibrary loan procedures. Probably the biggest change so far is that, as of September 1, all subject requests from member libraries will be sent via electronic mail directly to Plattsburgh Public Library (our Central Library). Shahin Shoar, Reference Librarian at PPL, will be receiving requests directly -- she has been processing them, and we're hoping that the new procedure will prove to be efficient.

Because of our financial crisis, we have had to eliminate a position from the Reference Department. This is a great loss to us -- for almost four years we have depended on the skills and ability of Marilyn Trienens, but our part-time Librarian position has been cut. We have all enjoyed working with Marilyn, and I've found her assistance to be invaluable. Fortunately we'll keep in touch with her at the Westport Library Association.

Elizabeth Rogers
Reference/ILL Librarian

JEIC NEWS

Three new videos have been received at the Center lately. I Can is the story of a widow who has to re-enter the job market after being a farm wife for 25 years. In this inspiring video, we hear her discuss her reasons for choosing a career as a welder and learn how she went about making the transition. Hidden Jobs presents Tom Jackson, author of the Perfect Resume and The Hidden Job Market, discussing techniques for finding a satisfying career. Finally, Peak Performance tells how to be a much better person than you've ever been

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

CHAZY PUBLIC LIBRARY

An open house was held at the Chazy Public Library on Friday, August 26, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. to honor Librarian Helen Sweet, whose official retirement date was August 31. Mrs. Sweet had been the librarian at Chazy since 1967.

The library overflowed with visitors -- members of the community and representatives from many area libraries -- who turned out to express their appreciation and affection for Helen Sweet. Chazy Public Library (and C-E-F System) Trustee Emily Castine presented her with a certificate of appreciation for her many years of dedicated service. Mrs. Sweet will continue to work two days a week at the library as a volunteer.

Frances Fairchild is the new librarian at Chazy.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A poetry reading at the Keene Valley Library was given by T. Alan Broughton on August 17. Broughton has been Professor of English at the University of Vermont for 22 years and a summer resident of Keene Valley all his life.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

The Mooers Friends of the Library held a luncheon in honor of recently retired librarian Betty Vogan at the Royal Savage Restaurant in Plattsburgh. Betty was presented with two photo albums containing photos of her retirement party on May 22 at the library and an engraved sterling silver pin.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

In June the Saranac Lake Free Library received a painting by the late artist and art restorer, Stephen S. Story, given by his daughters Jennifer Blumenfeld and Roberta Walton. The work entitled "Saranac Lake" was executed in 1982.

This fall marks Kenneth N. Wiley's twenty-fifth year as a painter and his twentieth year teaching art at North Country Community College. An exhibition of over twenty of his works were on display in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library from June 13 through July 15.

Jody Primoff, of Roxbury, N.Y. is presenting an exhibit of watercolors entitled "Natural Images" in the Cantwell Community Room, August 22 through September 16.

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"Come to the Fair," one of the most popular events in Saranac Lake every summer, took place on Tuesday, August 2, and Wednesday, August 3. The library realized approximately \$6,000 in profits from this 33rd Annual Fair. The money will be used to purchase books and library equipment. The Friends of the Saranac Lake Free Library sponsored the fair. Pat Wiley was the event chair.

Along with the sale of thousands of books, white elephant items, baked goods, and flowers, the fair featured a number of gift items.

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"Times Gone By," the fourth in a limited edition series of historical calendars, includes over fourteen photographs from the library's Adirondack collection. Calendar sales benefit the collection. The cost is \$5.00.

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TUPPER LAKE

Librarian Chalice Dechene reports:

Doesn't it seem that every summer goes by faster each year . . . and is busier each year? Sure seemed that way at Goff-Nelson Memorial Library in Tupper Lake!

We've had many things going on . . . to name a few: Summer Reading Program, started by Fran Collier, a former reading

teacher -- 35 Adults worked with 50 children each week. The program was tailored for 2 age groups: 2-6 and 7-12. The younger group were read to, and they acted out scenes and played games based on the book. The older group shared the plot with each other and had discussions about the books, and also listened to a mystery story each week, this session being sponsored by C-E-F.

The 16th Annual Art exhibit, sponsored by Goff-Nelson Memorial Library and the Tupper Lake Chamber of Commerce was held in July, and received excellent reviews. A total of 211 paintings, drawings, photographs, and portfolios were entered by 51 artists from all over the state, as well as from New Jersey and Florida -- 52 art entries were sold during the show. A watercolor "Adirondack Evening," donated by Richard Trick of Lowville, (a former resident of Tupper Lake,) will be raffled September 9th for the benefit of the library.

A few quick thoughts: circulation was up considerably this summer, with many locals and tourists using the library: We're now offering video cassettes and book cassettes, and they are well received: Many comments on the proposed new library mandates . . . none favorable! Everyone is very satisfied with our library, which is nice to hear! We have a new volunteer, Mrs. Gladys Ruthford, who along with our very faithful and appreciated Mrs. McGregor, is giving us a helping hand this summer.

PAINE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLSBORO

Librarian Janice Allen reports:

We once again offered our six-week Summer Reading Program during July and August at the library. This program had three parts: pleasure reading, remedial assistance and storytime. Miss Julie Choate was our program director.

This program was made possible through matching funds provided by the Essex County Youth Bureau and through our local town board.

The 6th Annual Old Time Folkcraft Fair was held on Saturday, July 30 on the library lawn.

Some 50 craft people were registered once again this year; there were representatives from Vermont as well as from the tri-county area.

There was also a new event this year-- a drawing, with several craft items as prizes.

In addition, there was an exhibit of the works of Patricia Reynolds inside the library -- the artist was a special guest on July 30th.

August 6-13, the Paine Memorial Library hosted an exhibit, "Sid Couchey and the other Rascal" which featured the artistic work of cartoonist Sid Couchey of Essex.

Other August exhibits included "North Country Folk and Scenery," photographic works by Paul Maicus of AuSable Forks and "Roots and Wings," watercolors by Happy Marsh of Essex.

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On August 3, Dennis Lewis, Naval Historian, narrated a slide presentation, "The British on the Champlain Waterway."

WILMINGTON E.M. COOPER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Adeline Jaques reports:

Mrs. Peggy Dora and Mrs. Lisa Leonidas were teachers in the special program "Magic Passwords to Life Through Books," which began on July 5th and culminated with the 8th Annual Party of the Wilmington Library at Santa's Workshop on August 11.

An open house was held at the library on July 28, featuring children's exhibits from the "Funtastic Food Program," led by Mrs. Caroline Kennedy and from the Arts and Crafts program led by Mr. Howard Moody.

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