



# 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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Plattsburgh, New York 12901

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### NOT JUST SON OF WHITE TRASH

Hey y'all -- Ernie Mickler's back! You remember Ernie - Ernest Matthew Mickler -- the author of WHITE TRASH COOKING (see "Talkin' Trash" in the September/October 1986 issue of the Trailblazer). Well folks, Ernie's gone and done it again with SINKIN SPELLS, HOT FLASHES, FITS AND CRAVINS (Ten Speed Press, 1988).\* The recipes are just as trashy as ever. Some examples are: Gaynell's Tater Toes Casserole, Preacher's Chicken Ketcha-Cola (this one's real easy; all you need is a fryer, a bottle of ketchup and a bottle of Co' Cola), Tammy Faye's Tumped Tuna Jump, Calleen's Chicken Fried Rabbit and Gravy and (I know I'm going to love this next one) Rack of Spam.

Ernie has thoughtfully listed the recipes under the social occasions for which they are most appropriate, including funerals and wakes, holidays and hawg killings. To avoid those embarrassing faux pas, Ernie includes additional hints with the recipes, as needed. For example, with Candy Silcox's Confetti Eggs he warns, "Because of the color these might not be appreciated at some wakes." For Glennie Nell's Roast Christmas Possum he tells us to make sure to allow enough cooking time cause, "They ain't nothing in the world worst than bein accused of servin half-baked possum."

What makes this book more than just a sequel to WHITE TRASH COOKING is that Ernie begins every chapter with a White Trash story, peopled with characters bearing such names as Loumie, Oleen, Reatha Faye and Naireen. I have two special favorites of these tales. One is "Christmas Shoppin," in which a White Trash daughter asks her mother for a recording of "Madame Butterfly" for Christmas ("Why who sings it, honey, Dolly Parton? An if she didn't I betcha she wrote it.") The other is "Aunt Doe Rae's Packaged-up World" in which Aunt Doe Rae is writing up the do's and don'ts for the New Mt. Nebo Creek Baptist Church's homecoming dinner. Aunt Doe Rae wants nothing but homecooked food and she's not worried about fat -- "I betcha ninety percent of them rapers, robbers and killers is skinny."

In addition there's an expanded White Trash photo section -- 80 color snapshots of White Trash at work and play -- and some good close-ups of the food too. With the exception of a few that are uniquely Southern (my favorite of these is the dual sign advertising the Dixie Diner and the World Famous Ave Maria Grotto: Jerusalem in Miniature, in Cullman, Alabama) these scenes look a lot like home.

\*Hardcover edition, \$19.95; paper, \$14.95

Ernie's book has lifted me right out of the winter doldrums. Not only has he enabled me to perk up my monotonous menus (no one has trashier eating habits than my children) but, he's struck an important, much needed, blow against the

Yuppification of America. So read Ernie's book, eat more cooter and have a good old low down time.

Mary Shaw Hopkins  
Editor

### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Despite the fact that the State Budget is in deficit, and there is belt tightening everywhere, I urge the Governor and the Legislators to consider funding the Library Omnibus Bill this year. Libraries have not had an increase since 1986, and almost all public library systems are in serious financial difficulty. We at C-E-F Library System have managed to balance our budget for 1989, with a corresponding effect on staff and services, and it is vital to the continuation of our current services that the Omnibus Bill be passed.

than libraries in other parts of the State which do not have microcomputers. We are now depending upon these micro-computers for electronic mail transmission of interlibrary loan requests and for other communication among the libraries. CEFDA, the library directors' association of C-E-F, uses the electronic mail to communicate with and among its members.

The Library Omnibus Bill is of great importance to every type of library in New York State.

The second reason for passage of the Omnibus Bill is that it would provide a minimum of \$3,500 direct State Aid to each of our 29 member public libraries. This would help them in meeting the minimum public library standards which require some additional expense. These are those regulations concerned with purchase of a photocopier, increasing hours of service, setting up services for ramps for handicapped access and for other services which cost additional funding. Each of our libraries has a telephone and microcomputer, and in this sense our small rural public libraries may be better off

Again we urge our legislators to support the Omnibus Bill which is being presented to the legislators by the Board of Regents. This amount of 28.7 million dollars is not a large amount, when you consider that it is an attempt to catch up on a three year period of no additional funding and that it applies to every type of library in New York State including public libraries, school libraries, hospital libraries, academic libraries and others.

Stanley A. Ransom  
Director

### STANDARDS AND THE SMALL LIBRARY

As most of you know by now, the Board of Regents has endorsed five of the recommended standards, those which would require a library to have bylaws, a plan of service, written policies, an annual budget, and to make available printed information about hours, borrowing policies and the library telephone number and address.

Four other recommendations, which would require significant expenditures by some libraries, will be the subject of consultation between the Commissioner and concerned parties

to develop funding strategies. Under these recommendations, libraries would provide services to the disabled, connect with automated services, provide rest rooms, photocopiers and telephones. Funding for assisting libraries in meeting these standards is included in the new Regents Library Omnibus Bill, which would provide a minimum of \$3,500 for each library to help in meeting the standards. Passage of the Library Omnibus Bill would be required to make these funds available.

The Regents did not take action on an earlier recommendation concerning certification of librarians for small libraries. The Regents asked Education Department staff to work with rural library staffs and trustees, public library system directors, library schools and providers of distance learning to develop appropriate training and certification procedures for small libraries. According to Regent Laura Chodos, the Regents expect the staff to do this work within three years.

The C-E-F Library director and staff are in frequent touch with all member libraries as to their needs and ways in which the System staff can be of assistance. On February 3rd, C-E-F Director Stanley A. Ransom, and Elizabeth Rogers, Head of Reference, and Kathie LaBombard, Children's Consultant, visited the Crown Point Library to weed and review the collection. The all-day weeding project was done in preparation for the move in the near future by the Crown Point Library to its new building on Main Street in Crown Point. Weeding member library collections, discussion of policies with board members, and assistance to the member librarians by the C-E-F Library System director and staff are a daily part of the activities at the C-E-F Library System. In addition, each of the C-E-F supervisory staff, including the director, are assigned a minimum of three member libraries to whom they act as a personal System consultant. It was a great help for the System director to be able to draw upon these close connections with member libraries, especially the libraries serving smaller communities, when he was a member of the Committee on Minimum Public Library Standards.

Stanley A. Ransom

#### BLACK POETRY DAY POSTER AWARD

The Graphics Gallery of the Strathmore Paper Company has presented a Silver Award of Excellence to the C-E-F Library System for "The 1988 Black Poetry Day Poster." This national award was presented for "outstanding use of the graphic arts in effective communications." The poster will hang in the Strathmore Graphics Gallery in Westfield, Massachusetts.

The design and concept of the 1988 Black Poetry Day Poster is by CreativeEDGE Graphics, a design firm located in Cadyville, New York and Burlington, Vermont. According to the proprietors, Rick Salzman and Barbara A. Pitfido, "the Jazz theme is a visual reiteration of the rhythmic sounds of poetic language. The poem by Baraka reinforces the theme. The 'cool' color palette completes the communication."

Congratulations to CreativeEDGE Graphics and thanks to Strathmore Paper Company's Graphics Gallery for this award.

The Black Poetry Day Committee is already at work preparing for October 17, 1989, when Black Poetry Day will again be celebrated in New York State, thanks to a \$3,000 grant from the New York State Council on the Arts.

Stanley A. Ransom

## ALMANZO AND LAURA INGALLS WILDER ASSOCIATION

Mr. Lawrence M. House, Director of the Wilder Association in Malone, has suggested that libraries and individuals may wish to become members of the Wilder Association. The Association is also restoring the Almanzo Wilder Homestead and offers tours of the farmstead. Libraries have an interest in the Almanzo Wilder Homestead, currently being restored in Burke, since it is the setting for Farmer Boy, by Laura Ingalls Wilder. This book, of interest to young and old, describes life in Malone when Almanzo Wilder was growing up on the farm. The Wilder Association publishes a newsletter, Farmer Boy News, and is interested in the continuing promotion of interests in Farmer Boy and other Wilder books. Membership dues are as follows:

Junior (under 18) - \$3.00  
Individual - \$5.00  
Family - \$15.00

Membership includes the newsletter subscription. Checks should be made payable to the Wilder Association. Gifts and dues are tax deductible.

Stanley A. Ransom

### NYLA MATTERS

● Watch for a mailing, including a return postcard, from NYLA asking for your opinion as to where the NYLA office should be located. The office is presently located in New York City. The other choice to be voted on is a location in Albany. The NYLA mailing gives the pros and cons of each place. Now is your time to speak up and advocate a change of location of NYLA headquarters, if that is your wish. Be sure to vote.

● Nancy Lian, Executive Director of NYLA, will be leaving on February 10th, after eight years of service to NYLA. In her new position Nancy will serve as Principal Executive Officer for an international organization of more than 1500 individual members from 46 countries, the Society of Incentive Travel Executives. We wish Nancy well in her new position, and we are sorry that she is leaving. She has done much to help the Association obtain a secure financial position and a stable footing, as well as an expansion of membership and activities.

● Plans are being made for a Governor's Conference on Libraries. Governor Cuomo has included the sum of \$25,000 for planning for a Governor's Conference, which is projected to take place in the fall of 1990. A White House Conference is scheduled to be held in 1991. System Director Stanley Ransom is a member of the Planning Committee for the Governor's Conference on Libraries for NYLA.

Stanley A. Ransom



## ITEMS TO NOTE

● NYSALB address change: The New York State Association of Library Boards now has a new mailing address: New York State Association of Library Boards, c/o Syosset Public Library, 225 South Oyster Bay Road, Syosset, NY 11791.

● Disaster Preparation Day: June 9, 1989, from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm at the Adirondack Museum, Blue Mountain Lake. Watch for mailings from North Country 3R's Council.

● Learning Technologies Fair: February 27th to March 2nd, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY. For further information contact Sue Matterson, 518-439-0981.

● "Art of the Picture Book" Workshop: A discussion and slide presentation on the history of illustrations in childrens' books, etc. Time: Monday, February 27th, 4:00 - 6:00 pm; Location: Broad Street School Library, Broad Street, Plattsburgh; Presenter: Doctor Daphne Kutzer, SUNY Plattsburgh; FEE: \$3.00, payable by check to NCTRC, which is the North Country Teacher Resource Center, or payable at the door provided you have called and notified the Coordinator, Lynn Cordy, at 518-564-5000.

Stanley A. Ransom

## IMPORTANT: LIBRARY DAY IN ALBANY

On March 7th, 1989, librarians, trustees and friends of libraries will rally around the flag to support library services and to visit their state legislators in Albany. The New York Library Association, which is coordinating the Library Day will offer a briefing session from 9:00 to 10:00 am and a packet of materials and information at its headquarters, which is located in the New York State Capitol, Suite 124-5. From the Capitol's State Street entrance main corridor, take the first hall to the left and walk to the end of the corridor to find Suite 124 to 125. Make appointments to visit your legislators now.

Visiting Albany would be a good time to let your legislators know what the \$3,500 direct aid could do to help your public library meet standards. We also hope you will speak to the legislators about the need for passage of the Regents Library Omnibus Bill, which provides funding not only for direct aid to public libraries, but for public library systems and other types of libraries in New York State.

Note: On Friday, February 24th, from 9:15 am to 12:00 noon the C-E-F Library System will hold a legislative workshop to advise librarians and trustees as to the various parts of the Regents Library Omnibus Bill, how to visit your legislators in Albany and at home, how to get to Albany, car pooling for a ride to Albany and any other matters related to legislation and the passage of library legislation and any other matters to be discussed.

Please let Mary Hopkins know if you are planning to attend. Please call C-E-F Library System at 563-5190.

Stanley A. Ransom

## HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

### LEE SALZMAN REPORTS:

Five new videos have been added to the System's collection recently thanks to Coordinated Outreach funds. At Home With Home Care is a three part series aimed at non-professional caregivers in the home. It highlights 14 at home concern areas including nutrition, grooming, exercise, medication and toileting. Attacking Anxiety illustrates the nature of anxiety and its treatment through three case histories that represent typical conditions (phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, chronic anxiety). Caring . . . Sharing -- The Alzheimer's Caregiver focuses on the value of support groups for caregivers of Alzheimer's patients. A Fragile Tree Has Roots shows how a young published poet who due to cerebral palsy cannot write, speak or move about creates his poetry with the help of his family. I Know A Song is an artfully made documentary which shows that Alzheimer's disease need not be the end of a loving relationship.

More recorded books are among our other new arrivals. They include White Fang by Jack London, The Sundowners by Jon Cleary, So Big by Edna Ferber, The Good Shepherd and The Last Nine Days of the Bismarck by C.S. Forester and Great American Short Stories.

Leona Salzman  
Assistant Director/  
Head of Outreach

### TECHNICAL SERVICES REPORTS:

Every year Technical Services adds up the statistics and worries that the number of new books, the lifeblood of a library, might be declining due to budgetary considerations. Yet, the 1988 final total of 13,250 processed and barcoded books far exceeds the 1987 total of 9171. This impressive increase includes (say that 10 times trippingly on the tongue) Plattsburgh Central, book pool,

prison and grant books which means more books for collection, bookmobiles and eventually our patrons; and that is good news.

And so to Tracey LaBarge, Marilyn Blanchard and Lettie Liberty -- congratulations -- you do good work!

Carol G. Bedore  
Head, Technical Services

### NEWS FROM REFERENCE AND INTERLIBRARY LOAN

We're still compiling our 1988 interlibrary loan statistics, but our borrowing and lending trends are clear -- we rely heavily on two local networks, NYSILL and NC3R's, as well as our member collections. We provided nearly 12,000 items to fill requests which originated within the C-E-F System.

Our revised 1989 ILL policy states that all member libraries should submit requests to System headquarters electronically. This offers a substantial improvement in service to patrons, and is an important accomplishment for C-E-F. We still have two libraries in need of electronic mail, but we're very pleased with the progress and cooperation of the others.

In preparation for our 1989 retrospective conversion (our Regional Bibliographic Data Base and Resource Sharing program), we are undertaking a massive weeding project here at System headquarters. We're subscribing to an "Everything must go!" philosophy, since no one still living can remember when a comprehensive weeding project was last completed.

We've withdrawn 4,100 items from our circulation system during January, and will continue at this pace through March at least. We have six staff members hard at work, weeding no less than one day a week. The follow-up is most impressive,

and members of Carol Bedore's department can take credit for that. They have done a spectacular job of withdrawing from Gaylord, stamping books, pulling cards, etc., and deserve a round of loud applause.

We have come up with customized weeding guidelines, and find that the condition and age of books are among the most important criteria. It's a rewarding activity, and what a dramatic difference in the appearance of our stacks!

Elizabeth Rogers  
Head of Reference  
and Interlibrary Loan

### JEIC NEWS

We are happy to report that Marge Wachtmeister has taken over the responsibilities of Principal Library Clerk with the Center. Marge, who is filling the position vacated by Paula Jenkins, will work with area correctional facilities, presenting Job Search Workshops for pre-release inmates. Marge will also continue to work part-time in the Outreach Department on the Rural Health Information Grant. We're really pleased that Marge has joined us and know she'll be an asset to our program.

Kathie LaBombard  
JEIC Librarian

### OUTREACH NEWS

Now that the dust has settled and the 1988 year-end statistics are tallied, we are pleased to announce a significant increase in bookmobile circulation. Total circulation for last year was 87,446, which is an increase of 1,986 transactions over

our 1987 totals. More than 1,100 new patrons were registered for patron cards in 1988, which brings the total number of North Country residents served by the bookmobiles to over 4,000. Each increase is especially significant during this period of uncertain funding. We will continue to provide the best possible service, but will rest a minute on our laurels with the knowledge that we are doing something right and it shows!

The C-E-F Board of Trustees has approved a request to purchase a new bookmobile which would replace 12 year old Bookmobile B. The size and specifications of the new vehicle will be determined by the actual availability of funds and the results of a rural boxholder survey of current and prospective patrons.

Approval has also been received for the purchase of two back up power units that will run the bookmobile computers in case of generator failure (which has plagued us this winter). Driver Al Hutchins of Bookmobile A is now researching a solution to power failure caused when his electrical hookup plug is pulled by young bookmobile "gremlins" (not his term!).

This year, the first annual Valentine's Day contest was held on the bookmobiles. Prizes were awarded to patrons who submitted the fanciest, most poetic, most humorous, and most original entries. All valentines were given to residents of the Clinton County Home, Plattsburgh, the Horace Nye Home, Elizabethtown, and the Alice Hyde Nursing Home in Malone. The Bookmobiles - involved in your community! Sounds like a good ad campaign!

Julie Wever  
Outreach Librarian

### VIDEOS PURCHASED WITH NYSCA FUNDS IN 1988

#### Beethoven Effect

7 minutes.

Color.

A woman enraged at her husband goes through a series of mood changes, each accompanied by a different passage of Beethoven's Ninth. A whimsical look at the power of music.

**Garden of Eden**

28 minutes. Color.

A great variety of the world's plant and animal life must be safeguarded if humankind is to continue to prosper. This beautiful and intelligent video makes clear the need for conservation.

**Katherine Mansfield**

54 minutes. Color.

This film follows the life of this romantic, brilliant and formidable woman who left her native New Zealand and soon was at the center of the literary scene in London.

**Man Who Planted Trees**

30 minutes. Color.

This beautifully animated parable reveals the magical power of determination which transforms a desolate land into a thriving oasis.

**Master Smart Woman**

28 minutes. Color.

A beautiful film portrait of 19th Century feminist writer Sara Orne Jewett. It highlights the major events of Jewett's life and also integrates excellent critiques of her works, as well as excerpts from her fiction and autobiographical writing.

**No Place Like Home**

55 minutes. Color.

According to this documentary, providing home care rather than institutionalized care is often less costly to the public and much more desirable for the older person. About a third of the people now living in nursing homes would not need to be there if alternative services were more widely available.

**Pachelbel's Canon**

8 minutes. Color.

The inner workings of music come to life as notes in glowing colors outline the ingenious evolving structure at the heart of one of the most popular pieces of classical music ever written.

**Silence Upstairs**

13 minutes. Color.

This film depicts the dynamics of an average family trying to cope with the problems which arise when their ailing grandmother comes to live with them. As in many cases, abuse is the result.

**Touch Film**

22 minutes. Color.

Dr. Jessie Potter focuses on the therapeutic value of human touch as an often undervalued mode of everyday communication. A realistic video that clearly describes the importance of "touch" on our personal lives and the lives of those we work and live with.

**Uncommon Images**

28 minutes. Color.

A touching portrait of one of the first and foremost photographers of Afro-American life, who set up shop in Harlem at the beginning of the century and spent the next 60 years taking pictures there.

Marie D. Chauvin  
Head, Film Department



DEADLINE

THE DEADLINE FOR NEWS  
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE TRAILBLAZER  
WILL BE MAY 1, 1989

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS?

A change in post office regulations means that we must now have three-line addresses for everyone on our mailing list. (For example, John Smith, West Chazy, NY 12992 is no longer acceptable). We need a street, post office box or route number. If you haven't been receiving your copies of the Trailblazer lately, this may be the problem. Please contact Mary Hopkins at System, so we can update your mailing address.

CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY DIRECTORS' ASSOCIATION

The next CEFDA meeting will be held at the Westport Library on March 20, 1989, 9:30 a.m. to noon. The meeting to be chaired by Janice Allen, will begin with coffee and a tour of the library. The special program topic will be "HOB0/ILL Update and Automation Overview," presented by Elizabeth Rogers from System Headquarters.

All library directors of libraries in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System are invited to join the organization, which meets four times per year. For further information contact Janice Allen at Paine Memorial Library in Willsboro. Phone: (518) 963-4478 or Betsy Beggs at the Saranac Lake Free Library. Phone: (518) 891-4190.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

CHATEAUGAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

At its annual meeting on December 7, the Board of Trustees of the Chateaugay Memorial Library welcomed Mr. Jack Monaghan as a new trustee. Mrs. Emma Perry was reelected as President for the ensuing year, as were Marie Thomas, Secretary and Vice-President; and Shirley Jones, Treasurer. The Board accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mrs.

Margaret Soucia, Trustee and Secretary for the past ten years. Mrs. Stella McCann will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Margaret Soucia.

\* \* \* \* \*

We are now participating in the Campbell's Soup Company's "Labels for Education" program and getting a lot of enthusiastic support from the community.

The goal is 3,225 labels by March. We hope to add to the library's equipment through this label drive.

### WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Director Dave Minnich reports:

The Wead Library's application to be a New York State Documents Reference Center was approved by the North Country 3R's Council, and the application was forwarded, along with the aforementioned approval, to the New York State Library. An announcement was made recently that Wead Library is to be one of the new depository libraries in the New York State Government Depository Library program. One criterion for this program is that the Library's personnel "must have a positive attitude toward Government documents and their use." There are all sorts of positives.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is pleasing to report that the Wead Library has been granted \$200 for art supplies by the Malone Council on the Arts re-granting program. The library applied for \$300, and is receiving 2/3 of that amount, which in this era of stringency equals a very enjoyable surprise. The funds will be used for materials purchased for use with the children's programs in the library, such as felt, art paper, and similar craft supplies.

### BLACK WATCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY TICONDEROGA

The Black Watch Memorial Library will add an Adirondack reference section to its stacks soon.

The collection will feature books on the Adirondacks' military history, Native American culture, industries, area personalities, scenic features of the area, and sporting opportunities, including hunting, trapping and fishing.

Literary works by Adirondack writers and area photography and art work will also be included in the collection.

The Adirondack reference section was made possible through a grant from the International Paper Foundation.

The grant was submitted by the Black Watch Library Board and the Friends of the Black Watch Library, with the assistance of North Country community College student Maurice Thompson.

Stephen Boyce, a local educator, library board member, and regional studies authority, will oversee the acquisition of the collection.

Fred Chasse, Ticonderoga mill manager presented the grant to Stephen Boyce and Hans Katzenstein, President of the Friends of the library, recently.

### SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

Patricia Fobare-Laconi, student trustee of the North Country Community Board, was the speaker at the annual meeting of the Saranac Lake Free Library Association, held January 25, at the Library.

Ms. Fobare-Laconi related her experiences during the two and a half years as research assistant at the Washington Park Zoo in Portland, Oregon, where she was involved in the behavioral studies of chimpanzees.

Ann Tubby was in charge of the reception that followed. As has been the custom, Paul Smiths College, through the Hotel Saranac, provided refreshments.

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