



C-E-F TRAILBLAZER

Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System News

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

STANLEY A. RANSOM
Director

17 Oak Street
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

Area Code 518
Dial 563-5190

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ANNUAL MEETING, 1990

The 36th Annual Meeting of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System will be held on Monday, June 11 at the Surrey, Howard Johnson's, in Plattsburgh.

Our guest speaker will be Arthur Cohn, Executive Director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, at Basin Harbor, Vermont. He is a nautical archaeologist who has worked for the Bureau of Historic Sites of Vermont and New York. He is one of the designers and coordinators of the Underwater Preserve Program on Lake Champlain. Mr. Cohn's topic for the evening will be "The Revolutionary War in the Champlain Valley: The Philadelphia Project."

In October 1776, the American fleet, under Benedict Arnold, met the British invaders at Valcour Island, near Lake Champlain's New York shore. During the course of the battle, the badly-damaged gunboat PHILADELPHIA sank. Most of the American fleet had been destroyed and the British had gained control of Lake Champlain, however this battle had a crucial impact on the outcome of the Revolution.

The PHILADELPHIA remained at the bottom of the lake until it was raised in 1935 -- it now rests in the Smithsonian Institution.

In 1989, 213 years after the Battle of Valcour, the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum began construction of a working replica of the PHILADELPHIA, which will be launched in 1991.

Mr. Cohn has been doing research on Lake Champlain for many years. We hope you will come to hear about the PHILADELPHIA Project and learn more about a fascinating part of our area's history.

Please note that, in a departure from our custom of holding luncheon meetings, the Annual Meeting will be held in the evening this year. A buffet dinner will begin at 6:45 p.m., with a cocktail/social hour beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Mark June 11 on your calendars! An invitation is attached to this issue.

Mary Shaw Hopkins
Editor

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

"PLEASE MAKE SURE THE BUDGET INCLUDES LIBRARY AID!"

As I write this, the state budget seems about ready to be agreed upon and passed within the next several days. Assemblyman Edward Sullivan has proposed a bill, Assembly Bill #11503, which would provide some \$10 million the first year and \$4.4 million the second year for a two year bill. Senator Hugh Farley has introduced Senate Bill #2943A for a total of \$29.5 million over a three year period. Both Houses are now negotiating toward a compromise bill. We hope that all parties involved will keep working at the compromise and that the State Legislature will eventually provide funds for increasing funding to libraries.

We are all in a situation which approaches extreme need. Many system and library directors to whom I have talked told of the enormous cuts in service that will have to be made if some funding is not provided. Please let your Senators and Assemblypersons know how important a library aid bill is to all of the people in New York State. Legislators tell us that your voices are being heard. Please continue to let them know of the importance of library service to you.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE PLANS UNDERWAY

The New York State Governor's Conference on Library Information Services is scheduled to be held in Albany from November 28-30, 1990. The conference in Albany will be preceded by many activities and events, including nine statewide regional conferences slated for August 28th. Governor Cuomo's 34 member Commission On Libraries is charged with developing plans and policies for the conference. The Commission approved overall plans for the conference at its first meeting in New York City on Friday, April 20. The Commission Chairman is Dr. Richard C. Wade, distinguished Professor of History at the City University of New York.

According to Marian Crouse, Director of the Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services, there will be regional conferences which are expected to involve at least 1500 people in all parts of New York State. One of the regional conferences will be in the North Country. These regions are formed by using one to five congressional districts. Each congressional district will have 8 representatives which can be sent to Albany to form

the total of 360 official delegates to the Governor's Conference. These delegates represent four groups: one-quarter are librarians and professionals working in libraries; one-quarter are library supporters such as Friends groups; one-quarter are elected and appointed officials; and the remaining quarter are members of the general public. The intent is to provide a forum for input by the public, rather than librarians. Volunteers are needed to assist in setting up the regional conferences. Please ask at the System if you are interested in being a volunteer. Forms are available and also will be distributed to local libraries.

The themes of the Governor's Conference, as with the White House Conference on Library and Information Services, which is scheduled to be held in Washington, DC, July 9-13, 1991, are literacy, productivity, and democracy. The New York State Governor's Conference will also consider the cultural aspects of libraries and will consider issues pertinent to New York State as well as national impact of the themes.

For additional information, please contact Marian Crouse, Governor's Conferences on Library and Information Services, Room 10C47, Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230, or call (518) 474-7890.

Stanley A. Ransom

NEW CROWN POINT LIBRARY TO BE DEDICATED

The new Hammond Library building in Crown Point will be dedicated on Saturday, May 26, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. with a ceremony and open house. Refreshments will be served.

This is the first time in the library's long history that it has been housed in its own building. In the past the library had been located in the Hammond family home and from 1929 until the completion of the new building it had occupied a room in the Crown Point Central School

Thanks to the following people who were instrumental in the design, funding and construction of the new Crown Point Library: Bill Johnston, C-E-F Trustee and President, Housing Assistance Program of Essex County, Inc.; Alan Hipps, Director of the Housing Assistance Program; Mary Eagan, Project Manager of the Housing Assistance Program; Colin Fink, Architect; Carl Ross, General Contractor; Charles F. Mazurowski, Supervisor of Crown Point; Senator Ronald B. Stafford and Assemblyman Anthony Casale.

State monies were obtained with the assistance of State Senator Ronald B. Stafford, and through a State Library Services and Construction Act grant obtained with the assistance of the C-E-F Library System.

C-E-F Staff members who assisted the Crown Point Director and Board in setting up the new library were: Stanley Ransom, Carol Bedore, Tracey LaBarge and Mary Hopkins.

The conversion of a garage into a modern library is an excellent example of "adaptive re-use" -- the attractive library building is a true asset to the community.

Thyra Burrows has been Crown Point's Librarian since 1965.

Current members of the Board of Trustees for the Hammond Library of Crown Point are: Harriet Bigalow, Elayne Sears, Linda Woods, Robin Barnett, Amy Ebersbach, Elaine Lackey and Deanna Joiner.

HONORED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: LAURA JEAN INGALLS

The United Way of Clinton County presented The Citizen of the Year award to one of Plattsburgh's fine librarians, Laura Jean Ingalls. She earned this honor by 35 years of volunteering her services to the USO. She is still active and organizes the Sunday night dinners for military families.

OF LOCAL INTEREST

BOOKS

^{3/2}
⑤ Coffee in the Woodwinds by Thomas J. Braga. Illustrations by Lynda C. Byard. Price: \$5.00. To appear in June, 1990.

A collection of forty poems in the form of composite vignettes of North Country people -- as viewed by an habitué of Plattsburgh's coffee shops.

Available at selected Plattsburgh book stores: Corner-Stone Bookshop, the Plaza Bookhouse, College Bookstore, and from the poet, Thomas J. Braga, P.O. Box 1258, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901-0120.

^{3/2}
Cult by Edward Frail. New American Library, 1990. Paper. Price: \$3.95.

A graphic and gory murder mystery about the search for a serial killer in a small Vermont village. Some of the action takes place in Fort Ann and Saratoga. The author is a teacher in Schuylerville.

VIDEOS

Unlocking the Wilderness: Settlement of the Adirondacks. VHS Color. 17 minutes. Price: \$25.00 (includes postage and handling).

A video transfer from a multi-image slide program, depicts the story of the Adirondacks -- its varied industries and the people who settled it. It was produced by James Bleeker and commissioned by Historic Saranac Lake.

Ordering information -- make checks payable to: Historic Saranac Lake, Box 1030 Saranac Lake, NY 12983. Phone: 518-891-0971.

NOTE: At this time, it is only available to libraries, schools and other educational institutions.

Meet the Author: Robert Louis Stevenson. VHS 18 minutes. Color. Price: \$42.00.

Named one of the ten best videos for children of 1989 by the American Library Association, this program tells the life story of the famous Scottish author through the eyes of his stepson Lloyd Osborne. The script was written by Frank Beck.

Of particular interest for our area, this video covers Stevenson's sojourn in Saranac Lake, where he began The Master of Ballantrae. The Stevenson Cottage is still maintained by Saranac Lake's Stevenson Society, under the curatorship of Jack Delahant.

Meet the Author: Robert Louis Stevenson is available in both video and filmstrip formats from American School Publishers, POB 408 Hightstown, NJ 08520 for \$42.00 plus \$3.36 for shipping. For toll-free ordering, call (800) 843-8855.

For more information, please call Frank Beck, (212) 337-5125.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY !!!

CONTINENTAL COPY PRODUCTS LTD. is offering a \$250 award to one new member of the New York Library Association (NYLA), to help defray the cost of attending the NYLA Conference from October 10 - October 14, 1990 in Rochester. The CONTINENTAL COPY/NMRT Professional Development Award is intended to encourage new NYLA members to participate both in NYLA and its New Members Round Table (NMRT).

CONTINENTAL COPY PRODUCTS LTD. has been in business for over sixteen years. CONTINENTAL COPY PRODUCTS provides and services coin-operated photocopiers in libraries, colleges and other academic institutions in the tri-state area.

To obtain an award application, call or write Toni Olshan at Herrick Memorial Library, Alfred University, Alfred, New York 14802. (607) 871-2184.

Applications must be postmarked by Saturday, August 18, 1990 and received by Friday, August 24, 1990.

HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

LEE SALZMAN REPORTS:

**OUR "STARS" SHOWN BRIGHTLY
DURING THE NIGHT OF 7,000 STARS!**

Libraries of all types here in the North Country did an outstanding job of promoting the joy and importance of reading during recent "Night of 7,000 Stars" celebrations as part of National Library Week. Following are examples of our public library activities:

- Akwasne Library Cultural Center held an all-day open house which featured an "overdue book" contest.
- E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library held an open house with punch and "star" cookies for refreshments. Local celebrities read aloud.
- Plattsburgh Public Library conducted evening storytime complete with milk and cookies. Children were welcomed to come in their pajamas, ready for bed. A read aloud on environmental issues was also held.

-Paine Memorial Library held an open house that included presentations on library services and featured special projects and exhibits.

-Wadhams Free Library held an open house that featured volunteers reading aloud and a survey on library services.

-Wead Library held an open house in their children's area which included theatrics about books.

Thanks to Mary Hopkins of our C-E-F staff, an article highlighting activities in local school and college libraries as well as public libraries appeared in the April 23 edition of the Press Republican.

Posters from libraries all around the State will form the basis for a display at the 1990 New York Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services. Don't be left out -- remember to send your autographed posters to Marian Crouse, Conference Director, by June 1!

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Soon there will be two new services for print handicapped individuals in our three county area, and we hope that as many member libraries as possible can assist in their development.

The Northeast Radio Reading Service should begin operation soon, and will be coordinated by the North Country Center for Independence. One of the ways C-E-F has assisted with the program so far was to send an interest survey to New York State Library for the Blind and Visually Handicapped patrons, and approximately 15% expressed a definite interest as a result of this first mailing. Service will begin via cable television as a pilot effort and the ultimate goal of a closed circuit radio broadcast will be added. C-E-F has submitted an LSCA Title I grant proposal for the purchase of special radio receivers to support this service and will find out later in the year whether it will be approved.

Reading Partners for Older Adults is a program designed to match volunteer readers with older adults who are print handicapped. Nursing homes in our region are very interested in this service, and we plan to contact member libraries about volunteer readers for the homebound. For more information on either radio reading or reading partners, contact Lee Salzman at System Headquarters.

Lee Salzman
Assistant Director/Head of Outreach

FAMILY READING WORKSHOP

"Pulling Together -- Promoting Family Reading through Community Cooperation" was held at System Headquarters on Monday, April 23 under the Family Reading Program. A very lively and inspiring presentation was given by our featured speaker, Anne Simon, Youth Services Consultant for the Division of Library Development in Albany. Using her stewpot of ideas, Anne gave us all the main ingredients in working cooperatively with other agencies for successful programming, especially with little or no funding.

Following Anne's presentation, a panel from area organizations gave a local perspective. Winnifred Frenner, Social Services Parent Involvement Coordinator for Clinton County Headstart; Marguerite Adams, Executive Director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the North Country; and John Duncan, Education Coordinator for the Mental Health Association; briefly described their organizations and needs. Each agency stressed the need for communication and awareness and all were very eager to work with area libraries.

We'd like to thank all our presenters and our attendees. Feedback from the program was very positive.

Kathie LaBombard and
Julie Wever
Project Directors

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Summer Reading Program materials have been distributed to member libraries. The theme this year is Library Safari 1990 -- Wild About Books. In addition to the regular materials this year is the Monkeyshines Program for the read-to-me crowd. We hope the libraries will use the resources and turn their libraries into real jungles this summer!

Kathie LaBombard
Children's Consultant

JEIC NEWS

The Center has received many new study guides recently. Among them are the Truck Driver's Guide to Commercial Driver Licensing, the FBI Entrance Examination, How to Pass Civil Service Oral Examinations, and 101 Tips for Scoring High on the GRE.

During May, the Center will have a visit from participants of Project Self-Sufficiency. We are looking forward to providing them with a tour and to introducing them to SIGI Plus for

computerized guidance information. Last month's activities included participation in Career Night at Plattsburgh State and at the Clinton County Youth Fair.

Kathie LaBombard
JEIC Librarian

"A LITTLE MADNESS IN THE SPRING," FROM THE REFERENCE/ILL DEPARTMENT

The snow finally melted, and along with the library's tulips, spring has brought an increase in activity to the Reference Department. March and April were busy: we received nearly 1600 requests from our member libraries (which kept Lettie and Cindie busy).

I was pleased to have been the invited speaker at the March CEFDA meeting, and had an enthusiastic audience in Upper Jay to share a discussion of weeding with. Having heard favorable comments from many in attendance, I think we've all been inspired to do some spring cleaning in our stacks.

Stan Ransom and I enjoyed a weeding trip to the Mooers Free Library, where we spent an April day in the adult non-fiction stacks. We were impressed by the collection and the hospitality (not to mention the food!) in Mooers.

In March we welcomed the Keene Valley Library Association to the world of CD-ROM use. I was fortunate to be able to call upon the services of Tom Blauvelt of NC3Rs, who kindly met me in Keene Valley. Together we installed equipment and trained Maggie Sheldon in the wonders of the regional IMPACT data base.

Members who are using IMPACT report that patrons love using it, and library staff find it an invaluable tool. We are looking forward to expanded point-to-point activity, and encourage Plattsburgh Public to participate more in regional activity with increased use of the data base.

I can tell by the arrival of black flies that May is here, and all indications

are that it will be at least as busy as previous months. I will be attending a SUNY/OCLC training session with Shahin Shoar of PPL on the new EPIC service offered by OCLC. This is an exciting expansion of OCLC's services, at last providing subject access to the data base.

We're getting our seasonal ILL requests -- our usuals on egg incubation, gardening, plenty of end-of-semester projects. We're trying to gear up for the anticipated summer rush. It won't be long before summer patrons arrive with reading lists in hand, eager to read their favorite authors' works. Each year brings new additions to the lists of "most requested authors." I'm sure this year will be no exception, and we all look forward to the best of 1990.

Elizabeth Rogers
Head, Reference/ILL

OUTREACH NEWS

Perhaps no department here at System Headquarters anticipates the arrival of spring as much as does the bookmobile department, but then, no other department is as directly affected by the return of warm weather. Strategically located restaurants which are important oases on the Essex County overnight open for the season around the first of May. Shortly afterwards, Mike Pavone gets out the velcro bug screens that he invented for the bookmobile windows. (These are patented, by the way -- complete instructions are available for \$19.95. Make checks payable to "Give Us an Air Conditioner Fund.")

According to Chase's Annual Events, May is National Sight Saving Month. It is interesting to note that in the past year Large Print books have become so popular with bookmobile patrons that "sight saver" circulation now accounts for a significant percentage of our total circulation. A wide selection of large print materials in hard and soft cover is carried on both bookmobiles. Many patrons enjoy reading best sellers, westerns, mysteries and "nurse stories" in this format.

Over 650 parents and children toured the bookmobile at the 1990 Youth Bureau Fair which was held at the Crete Center on April 5. Children and their families were encouraged to Share a Story with one of the five guest readers who were featured throughout the day. Readers included Brenda Tallman, Publisher of the Plattsburgh Press-Republican; Lee Salzman, Assistant Director of the C-E-F Library System; Carla List, Librarian at the Feinberg Library, SUNY Plattsburgh; Miss Karen, Children's Librarian at Plattsburgh Public Library and Altezar the Reading Wizard. Thanks again to these readers who helped share the "Magic of Reading."

The rural boxholder survey of current and prospective bookmobile patrons is nearing completion. Of the 13,000 surveys mailed out in February, 1390 have been returned to date. This results in a very rewarding 10.7% return rate, which is significantly higher than the average return rate of mail surveys. We now face the monumental task of manually entering survey responses into a computer database created by Mike Pavone. A preliminary analysis of responses has already given us a fascinating look at the needs and perceptions of the rural residents we aim to serve.

Julie Wever
Outreach librarian

VIDEOS ADDED TO COLLECTION

Annie 128 Minutes. Color.

You'll lose your heart to the orphan who escapes her "hard knocks life" to find a home with wealthy Daddy Warbucks.

Black Beauty 105 Minutes. Color.

Based on the all-time favorite novel, this is the story of friendship between a boy and his colt.

Black Stallion 117 Minutes. Color.

The stirring story of a shipwrecked boy and the horse that rescues him.

Call of the Wild 105 Minutes. Color.

The Jack London classic where Buck, a once beautiful pet dog, is forced into a wilderness life of bare survival in the Artic cold of the Yukon.

Chariots of Fire 124 Minutes. Color.

In the 1924 Paris Olympics, two men run for their country and their beliefs. A triumphant film, pleasantly romantic, capped by a thrilling race.

Children of a Lesser God 119 Minutes. Color.

A wonderful love story about John Leeds, an idealistic special education teacher, and a headstrong deaf girl named Sarah.

Cimarron 124 Minutes. Black/white

Sweeping saga of a family's struggle to survive on the Oklahoma frontier at the turn of the century. Based on the classic novel by Edna Ferber.

The Color of Money

119 Minutes. Color.

Paul Newman and Tom Cruise ignite the screen in this powerful drama about their profitable yet volatile partnership, with Cruise as a young pool hustler.

Crazy Mama

99 Minutes. Color.

Cloris Leachman has the title role in this action comedy about a woman who takes to crime when she loses her beauty parlor business.

Enchanted Forest

78 Minutes. Color.

A child lost in the redwood forest is found by a kindly hermit, and is raised by him and his animal friends until his real mother returns to claim him.

Freedom Man

61 Minutes. Color.

Drama based on the true story of Benjamin Banneker who risked his life working with the Underground Railroad, and who astonished the world with his scientific discoveries.

Gandhi (2 parts)

187 Minutes. Color.

In stirring detail, Gandhi's life, principles and power explode on the screen as this small, modest man did what others before him could not do -- he led an entire country to freedom -- he gave his people hope.

Heidi

105 Minutes. Color.

The touching tale of the young orphan Heidi who finds a new life and happiness with her grandfather high in the Swiss Alps.

Milagro Beanfield War

118 Minutes. Color.

Robert Redford directs this delightful comedy of everyday people caught up in extraordinary circumstances. When a chicano handyman decides to irrigate his beanfield by "borrowing" water from a development site, he unknowingly sets off a chain reaction that erupts into a humorous culture clash.

Mississippi Burning

127 Minutes. Color.

In 1964 the South was ablaze with racial unrest. When three civil rights workers disappear the FBI intervenes. Eventually the boys are all found dead and the power of justice and freedom meet hatred and bigotry head on.

Marie Chauvin
Head, Film Department

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Director Dave Minnich reports:

The library's Annual Election was held on April 24. It was unanimously approved that the library's appropriation be increased from \$139,679 to \$156,631.

Also, John Kennedy was elected to a five-year term as library trustee.

Children's Librarian Susan Wool is conducting a pre-school story hour on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

PERU FREE LIBRARY

The library's new children's room was dedicated in honor of the late Gertrude Etesse at a ceremony on March 31. Mrs. Etesse had been a teacher and served on the library's Board of Trustees for 12 years -- children were her first love. Mrs. Etesse's family were among the nearly 100 guests who attended the dedication. The C-E-F Library System was represented by Director Stanley Ransom.

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An exhibit of photographs by Peru High School students will be on display at the library May 8 - 29. There was a reception on May 8. This exhibit was funded by a grant from the Clinton County Council on the Arts.

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The Peru Lions Club held its annual pancake breakfast on April 29. Proceeds will go to the library to purchase audio-visual equipment for the handicapped.

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The Girl Scouts are planting flowers at the library.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

PPL's Friends President Helen Ianelli reports:

NEW HAPPENINGS AT THE PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bloom into Spring - is the theme for the month of May at the Plattsburgh Public Library. The Friends of the Library featured for this eventful month an open house May 10th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. There was a reception for local artists and the public, with a special welcome to newcomers of the area. Library tours were given. The new art gallery wall space in the library was dedicated at noon THE HELEN HALE - EMMA WALTERS GALLERY -- in honor of the late Helen Hale and Emma Walters who were Plattsburgh librarians during the 20's and 30's. Floral paintings by area artists will be on exhibit during May and June.

The second annual Friends Luncheon will be held Wednesday, June 6th at the Royal Savage Inn. Our speaker this year will be the entertaining Bill Smith of Colton, NY, Adirondack storyteller, basket maker and ballad singer, relating tales of his "Growing up in the Adirondacks."

On Friday, July 6th in conjunction with the Mayor's Cup weekend, The Friends landlubber activity will be a Book Sale on the outside grounds of the library from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Book donations will be appreciated.

The primary purposes of the "Friends of the Library" is to focus favorable attention on the Plattsburgh Public Library as well as sponsor cultural related events for the community. The new officers for this year are President Helen Ianelli, Vice President Nancy VanLeeuwen, Secretary JoAnn Carroll, Treasurer Jane Lanigan and publicity Katherine Murnane and Jann Shambo.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

A multi-media production called "Grundlebee Chili Spoon," was on display at the Cantwell Community Room in May. It included music, photographs, poetry and free-standing sculpture -- most made from "found objects." The piece was the

brainchild of a Saranac Lake teenager Dan Bodah, who edits the alternative student magazine at North Country Community College.

WELLS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UPPER JAY

There was a good attendance for the appearance of magician Randy the Magnificent for the Family Reading Program -- 27 children and adults.

A big book sale is planned for May 18th and 19th. Volunteers are busy cleaning and painting the basement area to prepare for the event.

Librarian Kay LeClair and Trustee Lucy Ritchie attended the recent Library Trustee Institute in Albany.

PAINÉ MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLSBORO

Librarian Janice Allen reports:

The 8th Annual Old Time Folkcraft Fair will be held on Saturday, July 28.

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The Library is one of Essex County's RSVP work stations and has had several faithful volunteers over the years. Present volunteers include Roy and Rona Hamms and Genevieve Blaise, who will be honored at a Recognition Dinner on May 19 in Ticonderoga.

**WILMINGTON E.M. COOPER
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

March was the official fundraising month at the library, culminating with a prize-drawing at Steinhoff's Sportsman's Inn. The raffle, organized by the Friends Group with donated prizes, raised over \$1,060. The library plans to purchase two Adirondack rocking chairs for the front porch reading area with part of the money.

Also Steinhoff's donated 50¢ to the library from each corned beef and cabbage special dinner served on St. Patrick's Day - a \$100 check was turned over to the library.

"Wilmington and Other Places," a popular exhibit of watercolors by local artist June M. Clow, shown during the month of April, was extended until May 12 by special request of the public.

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

LAST MINUTE NEWS ITEMS

RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING FROM STAN RANSOM

Follett, Ken. The Pillars of the Earth. Morrow, 1989. \$22.95.

This historical romance begins with the hanging of an innocent man in 12th century England. The curse of the murdered man's sweetheart lingers for a century but the main thrust of this absorbing novel relates to the building of a gothic cathedral. Details of everyday life in the Middle Ages are interwoven with the lives of the characters: Tom, the master builder; the beautiful noblewoman Aliena; Philip, the Prior of Kingsbridge; Jack, the stone-carver and the mysterious Ellen of the forest. The central part of the drama is the building of the cathedral by unschooled stonemasons, including some who have visited France and noted the awe inspiring heights to which stone can ascend. Intrigue and politics, wars and mayhem, all combine to set the stage for the scenes leading up to the murder of Archbishop Thomas of Canterbury. In the Middle Ages everyday life could be risky, and Heaven or Hell was never very far away.

Stanley A. Ransom

NEW TRUSTEE AND RECRUITMENT VIDEOS

The 15 1/2 minute videocassette, "Library Trustees: Meeting the Challenge," is now available for loan from C-E-F. Made by the American Library Association in 1988, this video explains the elements of a good working board of trustees. The video covers board responsibilities, policy, planning, budget, library advocacy, public relations and involvement with legislation. All library board presidents should call Marie Chauvin at 563-5190 to book this videocassette to start and to end your next board meeting. It's entertaining and instructive.

"The Future is Information: Careers in Library and Information Service" is an 18 minute ALA video which shows the expanding career of librarianship. Narrated by Raymond Burr, the video provides an overview of the library profession in the information age and shows the great variety of opportunities available. This video would be very useful in presenting programs for Career Nights or when speaking to high school, college or adult audiences.

Stanley A. Ransom



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND
THE ANNUAL MEETING
of the
CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY SYSTEM
to be held at
THE SURREY RESTAURANT, HOWARD JOHNSON'S
Route 3 and I-87 at Exit 37, Plattsburgh
on
Monday, June 11, 1990
at 6:45 p.m.

Arthur Cohn, Executive Director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum,
at Basin Harbor, Vermont, will speak on "The Revolutionary War in the
Champlain Valley: The Philadelphia Project."

The buffet dinner menu will be:*

Fruit Cup Tossed Salad Relish Tray
Carved Steamship Round of Beef
Peas with Mushrooms and Onions Baked Potatoes
Seafood Newburgh
Rice Pilaf Petite French Rolls
Chocolate Parfait
Coffee, Tea or Brewed Decaf

*Anyone with a special dietary problem should notify Mary Hopkins at
System Headquarters so that alternate arrangements can be made.

Price for the dinner is \$16.00, including tip and tax. Reservations
with checks made out to the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System must be
sent to Mary Hopkins, Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System, 17 Oak
Street, Plattsburgh, New York ON OR BEFORE MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1990.

Note: Cash Bar from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

I wish to make _____ reservation(s) for the Annual Dinner Meeting at
The Surrey in Plattsburgh on June 11, 1990.

Name(s) _____

Institution _____ Address _____

Telephone _____

