

Trailblazer Fall 2002

The Newsletter of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System

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In This issue:

[The Sixth Annual Trustees' Forum, Coming Soon to a Location Near You
Plan to Plan With Us](#)

[Best Wishes to Marilyn Blanchard](#)

[Continuing Education Opportunities Abound](#)

[Feature Library: Sherman Free Library, Port Henry](#)

[A Bountiful Harvest of Ideas for Families and Children](#)

[From the ALA Website](#)

[Oliver Brooks and Clive and Sandy Henery in Plattsburgh](#)

[Member Library News](#)

[No Scarcity of Halloween Websites](#)

[2002 Outreach Minigrants Awarded](#)

["Sited" in the Adirondacks](#)

[Grant Watch](#)

[Mystery Men Quiz](#)

[Have You Heard?](#)

[Local Library Websites Flourish](#)

[Troubleshooting Your Internet Connection](#)

[PR Corner](#)

[A Preview of Things to Come](#)

The Sixth Annual Trustees' Forum, Coming Soon to a Location Near You

The annual CEF Trustee's Council, which has become a highlight of our fall activities, is hitting the road! Three regional meetings will be held at various library locations throughout the CEF service area during October and November. It is hoped that the "road show" approach will be a convenient way for member library staff and trustees to gather together and discuss common concerns. Topics to consider might include: money and fundraising, grant opportunities, budgets, library districts, director/board relations, staff compensation and evaluation, building project needs or whatever else is on your mind!

Please gather your staff and trustees, choose a date that best suits your schedule, and plan to join your colleagues at one of these locations:

Tuesday, October 8

Ellenburg Sarah A. Munsil
Free Library,
Ellenburg Depot
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 17
Westport Library Association
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 7
Lake Placid Public Library
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Please let us know which forum you plan to attend and RSVP to: Penny Cowan at CEF by telephone (563-5190 x 10); FAX (563-0421) or e-mail pcowan@cefls.org. To assist us in our planning, please indicate what issues you are interested in discussing when you register.

Plan to Plan With Us

What does your community really look like? The answer can be directly translated into many tangible benefits, not the least of which is increased financial support for your library! Plan to join us on Monday, November 18 on a trip through the exciting (yes, exciting!) maze of statistics and evaluation.

CEF has received a LSTA grant to assist up to ten member libraries to develop a customized community assessment plan during 2003. The project is intended to provide the skills and support necessary for local library representatives to take the first step in the New Planning for Results process that has been adopted by the American Library Association. To get us started, Dr. Lee Frost-Kumpf, an internationally recognized data collection expert, will present an inspirational overview of current data collection techniques and demonstrate how they can be applied successfully to a responsive plan of service. Activities will include a look at what annual reports can tell us, how to use pre-existing government data, how to do a useful community survey, and how to put it all together.

CEF consultants will also be planning busily and firing up those calculators. The CEF Plan of Service emphasizes planning through a feedback loop in which the needs of member libraries, as expressed in their own plans, become the basis for annual revisions to the CEF plan. It looks like we'll all be in this together during 2003. For more information, call your library consultant. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

Best Wishes to Marilyn Blanchard

When Marilyn Blanchard first appeared at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System in April of 1975 who knew we'd be able to convince her to stay for so long? In 2002, 27 years later we're saying farewell to someone who's seen CEF though more than half its lifetime.

Marilyn was born and raised here in Plattsburgh. At 19 she enlisted in the Army and proudly served, returning here from Georgia in 1970. It's here that she's raised her two children, Rick (who's 31) and Tammy (who's 30).

When Marilyn first started at CEF, her job consisted mostly of typing catalog cards and book labels. The Cataloging Department was bustling with six employees and the System had two bookmobiles on the road. There were about 30 people employed here under the leadership of Director Stanley Ransom. Interlibrary loan was driven by the Teletype machine connecting us to the NY State Library in Albany. By 1978 Marilyn's duties had expanded to include work on our OCLC database: using our card catalog, Marilyn and five other employees entered data until holdings information for the entire system were included in OCLC. Although Marilyn's tenure on the project was shorter, the project was completed in the early 1980's. From OCLC we were able to produce a microfiche product with holdings of all libraries in the System.

By now Marilyn's job had changed and she moved to the area we came to associate with her for many years: "The Back," as in "Marilyn's in The Back." It was there that she honed her skills and did a little of everything well: mending books, shelving books, processing books, filing cataloging cards and spending an incredible amount of time with something we became all too familiar with: the tub file. This was the file where book cards were kept; one for each book circulated to bookmobile patrons and member libraries through ILL or rotating collections. It was Marilyn's job to stamp each card with the date due and name of the library, and then file each card. Oh, those dreaded buff cards! I'd like to say that the memory of them brought a smile to Marilyn's face, but that wouldn't be true. A roll of her eyes, maybe.

In 1985 CEF joined the world of automated systems and began using the Gaylord 400 circulation system. Eventually Marilyn was able to abandon the tub file, which made her an enthusiastic supporter of automation in libraries. The daunting task of barcoding the 60,000 volumes housed at the System fell to the four members of the Acquisitions/Cataloging Department and was accomplished in about two years. Marilyn said the whole experience was "not bad at all," and they worked some weekends to finish the job.

By this time Marilyn's job had expanded to include processing out-going mail and

UPS as well as miscellaneous jobs within the department. She started using computers for circulation and continued working with OCLC online.

Something very important happened to Marilyn in 1990: her daughter Tammy had a son named Bonn. The rest of us at CEF have witnessed Marilyn's joy at being a grandmother over the last 12 years and have had fun visiting with him during his visits here to see Meme.

But back to work... In 1995 Marilyn got even busier as we switched automation vendors and started using MultiLIS. This Windows-based system was just the beginning of big changes to come. We closed the card catalog, boxing up for recycling the 100,000 catalog cards Marilyn worked so hard on for all those years. How did that make her feel? "It felt good!" was all she had to say. I asked her how she felt about the amount of skill she's developed using computers, having worked intensively with them for the past decade. She said, "They're excellent to work with and I've learned a lot. They've made my job much easier. I never believed I'd use them as much as I do today." Marilyn and I both laughed over our earliest efforts at learning how to use them, minimizing a window when we meant to maximize it, losing files and finding them again (or not). Marilyn's very happy with MultiLIS, citing the number of search techniques it offers and the use of truncation in searching.

After Carol Bedore retired as head of Acquisitions/Cataloging, that department was combined with the Reference/ILL department and Marilyn became involved with interlibrary loan. This has been an indescribable help to me (I don't know how I'd get the work done without help from Tracey LaBarge and Marilyn). Marilyn says she loves ILL work: the search and retrieval of requested books and getting to know the reading habits of the people we serve. Does she get interested in different things because of requests she processes? "Of course!" She's always interested in what's hot and what's not, and it's fun to see whether we can find things and whom we borrow materials from. Marilyn has become very adept at checking every possible place a requested book can be found in the building.

This summer Marilyn valiantly served as a substitute on the bookmobile. She enjoyed it very much, getting to see the service area, being out in good weather and meeting the patrons "whose handwriting I've been trying to read all these years." How was the food? "Sometimes ok, sometimes not."

The question everyone wants an answer to is this: what will Marilyn be doing in a week, a month, a year? Plans for the immediate future are obvious: relax! The first week will be spent taking it easy, letting it sink in that CEF won't be on her list of places to visit. Next month the list gets a bit less appealing: clean! Next year it starts

to sound really appealing: TRAVEL! Marilyn has great plans to visit all kinds of places. She wants to get to Hawaii to visit her niece. A trip to Disney World with Bonn has been promised. A visit to the state of Washington is a promise she's made to herself, and she has a great desire to see more of the United States. Whatever she does, wherever she goes, Marilyn needs to know that she'll be in our thoughts and we're wishing her the very best, happiest and longest retirement there can be.

-- Elizabeth Rogers, Head of Reference & ILL

Continuing Education Opportunities Abound!

October and November are ripe with educational excuses to get out and about before snow flies. Participation in conferences and workshops strengthens our abilities to serve library customers on many levels, and financial aid from CEF is available to help make workshop attendance feasible for everyone. Mileage, a substitute stipend, registration fees, lodging and meals may all be covered under CEF's Scholarship Program. For more information, please contact Kathie LaBombard at 563-5190 x 21.

Here is a sample of what is on tap locally, regionally, and statewide in October and early November. For a complete listing, visit the CEF web site at www.cefls.org.

October 15 Archives 201, NNYLN, Saranac Lake, Free

October 15 Dialog@Carl Database Searching, NNYLN, Potsdam, Free

October 19 "Harvest of Great Ideas", Plattsburgh, Childcare Coordinating Council and CEF, Free

October 26-30 New York Library Association (NYLA) Conference, Buffalo (see the NYLA web site at www.nyla.org for a conference schedule and registration information).

November 15 What's New In Young Adult Literature 2003, Bureau of Education & Research, Burlington, VT, \$165

November 18 What's New in Children's Literature 2003, Bureau of Education & Research, Burlington, VT, \$165

Feature Library: Sherman Free Library, Port Henry

Port Henry's Sherman Free Library was built in 1887 with an endowment from George Riley Sherman, who was an owner of Witherbee, Sherman and Company. In the late 1800's many libraries charged user fees, but Mr. Sherman wanted the library to be free for all of the people in the village. The original collection contained about 2,500 books. The current library collection consists of about 10,000 adult books and 1,600 children's books. The library, which is located in the business district of Port Henry, now serves all of the people in the Town of Moriah.

Mr. Sherman provided the library with what he thought to be a generous endowment. He could not, however, anticipate the effect of inflation. Today the library is supported by interest from the endowment, the Town of Moriah, the Village of Port Henry, and the CEF Library System. The library is open three days per week for a total of 20 hours per week. An expansion in 1907 added a reading room to the front of the library. The same architectural features were employed in this section as in the original building, including the mellow wood paneling.

The library has an extensive collection of local history books. The Witherbee Collection has many reference books on iron, steel and local mining. The Warner McLaughlin Collection contains books on the Adirondacks and Lake Champlain. All of these books are available for use only in the library, as they are one-of-a-kind books.

Recent acquisitions include over 50 videos, which were donated when the local video store closed. This collection of good quality videos is used extensively by patrons of all ages. Through the generosity of a patron, the library has also acquired over 30 audiobooks. Many people in Port Henry work in Vermont and use these books on tape for their listening pleasure while commuting. Recently, the library obtained an Outreach mini-grant from CEF to purchase large print books. Twenty large print books had been purchased with our own funds earlier in the year. The grant from CEF enabled the library to add 50 more books to this collection, which is enjoyed by many people.

In June, 2001, the library was given two Gateway computers by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. During the summer, the campers in the two local campgrounds make extensive use of the computers for checking their e-mail. During the school year, local students use the computers for research. In November, the library will again be offering four one-hour sessions to acquaint senior citizens with the programs that are available on the computers.

Jackie Viestenz was appointed director in January of this year. She has had previous library work experience. Last year she initiated the first summer reading program in the library and it was well received. A summer reading program was held again this year and the children who participated enjoyed the program. Bill Bryant, who had been a trustee for many years, has undertaken the job of President of the Board. This year Bill has been working on increasing the revenue of the library and decreasing the expenses.

The library has served the citizens of Moriah for 115 years and hopes to keep serving them for a long time in the future.

The children's corner features the Sherman Guard's Flag from 1875 and a picture of the library's founder, George Riley Sherman.

-- Jackie Viestenz, Director

A Bountiful Harvest of Ideas for Families and Children

As part of a Federal LSTA grant from the NY State Library, we have put together 60 themed bags for Even Start Program families in Clinton, Essex, and Franklin Counties to use at home with their children. Each bag contains books, a toy or video, cards with recipes and activities as well as a comment notebook where parents can write down what they did with their child to help the next parent to borrow the bag. Among the themes represented are: The **Alphabet, Bees, Cats, Dinosaurs, Monkey Manners, I Am Special, and Shapes**. This has been a truly cooperative project among, the Childcare Coordinating Council, Even Start Programs in all three counties and Cornell Cooperative Extension who made the wonderful bags! The bags will be traveling among the agencies on a six month rotation.

As an outgrowth of this project, The North Country Family Literacy Partnership has been formed to bring agencies involved in early literacy together, to coordinate events and to publicize the many activities for families that are available. The Partnership meets three to four times a year and meetings are open to all. Please call the Child Care Coordinating Council at 561-4999 for more details and to learn the date and place of the next meeting.

Harvest Some Good Ideas

A fall workshop for parents, librarians and child care providers will be offered for the first time on October 19th. It is being co-sponsored by the Child Care Coordinating Council and the CEF Library System. Titled "Harvest of Good Ideas: Using Books to Plan Activities for Children in Children's Settings," the workshop will take place at the Child Care Coordinating Council at 194 U.S. Oval from 9AM to Noon.

Participants will learn to look at the world through the eyes of a preschool child and then explore some activities centered around books that can be used at home or during library story hours. Topics for the fall workshop are: "Who Am I?," "Apple Soup & Pumpkin Salad: Looking at the World Differently," and "Moon & Stars: Moving Through Two Seasons." Please call the Child Care Coordinating Council or Penny Cowan at CEF (563-5190 ex. 10) for further information or to register. Registration will be limited.

-- Kathie LaBombard, Children's Consultant

From the ALA Website

Do you have patrons who ask how to write to Oprah's Book Club? Please give them the following address: Oprah's Book Club, PO Box 617640, Chicago, IL 60661. They can also check out the Book Club web site at Oprah.com/obc/obc_landing.html. The site includes a printable list of Oprah picks, a browsable library of previous picks, and a kids reading list.

Bonus: this site currently features directions for making one of those nifty flag pins out of seed beads and safety pins!

Oliver Brooks and Clive and Sandy Henery in Plattsburgh

Oliver Brookes, Clive & Sandy Henery of "Cantilena" led parents and children through a spirited rendition of "Yankee Doodle" at the Plattsburgh Public Library on August 20. All music at this performance was played on reproductions of instruments from the Middle Ages.

MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

In Clinton County:

Dodge Memorial Library, Rouses Point

Just before school started, we wound up a very successful summer reading program with a party which was held on Saturday, August 31.

Scholastic books were popular prizes for the most active readers. All participants enjoyed the cookies and punch served by library aids Silva Mary Marnes, Merle Moore and Donna Baumil.

Thanks to the efforts of village volunteers, we have very nice new landscaping in front of the library building and around the flag pole.

-- Mary Ann Tremblay, Director

Dodge Library, West Chazy

Greetings from Dodge Library in West Chazy! Our Splish Splash Read summer reading program was so well attended by preschoolers that we extended it for the month of August in addition to the month of July, as was originally planned. A special thanks to Patti Hinckley and her daughter Kira for all of their help.

Library Director Sarah Lushia left on August 29 for California to further her education in children's literature. Good luck to Sarah and many thanks to her for her dedication to our library for so many years, both as a volunteer and as a director. Cindy Pytlak joins the Dodge Library as its new director. She is very excited to be returning to the library field after a break of nearly 26 years.

We did some serious weeding this spring/summer in the adult fiction and non-fiction areas. This is a great start toward doing a comprehensive inventory in preparation to starting a bar code system.

Crisp fall weather brings the West Chazy school children back to the Dodge Library on Thursdays, accompanied by librarian Mary Ellen Martin. Fall also brings back the regular patrons who have been away this summer. It will be exciting to meet all of these people and to learn their reading tastes!

We are planning an open house on Saturday October 26 from 10 a.m. to noon. Refreshments and giveaways will be available, while supplies last. Costumes are optional!

Please feel free to stop in at any time to say "hi" and have a look at our library; we are very proud of its freshly painted look and well-stocked shelves. Our hours are Tuesday, noon - 8 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. - noon.

--Cindy Pytlak, Director, Dodge Library, West Chazy

Mooers Free Library

The library hosted a very successful summer reading program that was enjoyed by local children. Our grand finale featured a Scholastic Book Fair that not only provided prizes for participating children but helped to supplement the library's young adult and juvenile collections.

We are preparing for fall activities that will be highlighted by story hours for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. It is hoped that the witch that showed up last year for Halloween and stayed until Thanksgiving will not be back, but I think that I heard something outside on a broom hit the window!

The road in front of the library has been under construction for most of the summer. Parking at the library will continue to be a problem until the paving is completed. We were very pleased that the crowd that shopped at our annual Labor Day book sale was not deterred.

-- Edie Morelock, Director

In Essex County:

Lake Placid Public Library

Lake Placid Public Library has gone through yet another phase of its outdoor landscaping project. The lake side now has a beautiful covering of sod, and our Master Gardeners are steadily adding their creative touch to the already lovely gardens.

Patricia Perez has been appointed Assistant Director and we are all thrilled for her. Patricia brings enthusiasm and high energy to all she touches. Julie Montgomery is now heading Interlibrary Loan, and she's very excited and grateful for her position at the library. Julie feels "very lucky" and adds, "I love doing interlibrary loan."

I've been busy creating our in-house database for the 800's and adding these books to our already extensive collection of books in the database. Currently, we have approximately 2,000 books available for keyword search. Our short story and play titles can be located in minutes on the computer. Our children's books and magazines are also available electronically. Recently, I collaborated with "The World of Children's Literature", an event sponsored by The Writer's Voice, Lake Placid

Institute, and ACW, which will be help on October 26 and 27th at the Hilton Hotel. We held a summer challenge poster art contest based on the theme of children's literature, and the results have been excellent. The entries will be on display at the library, and during The World of Children's Literature Conference. It's always a good thing when the library joins with local schools and organizations to create and network in new and educational approaches.

-- Lousie Patinelli

Black Watch Memorial Library, Ticonderoga

The Black Watch Memorial Library has had a very busy summer! The firm of Butler, Rowland and Mays submitted architectural plans for our expansion project to the library board. The plans have been approved and forwarded to the New York State Historic Preservation Office for review.

We have had a record number of people using the library this summer. We hosted a weekly children's reading program that was very well attended. Our monthly book discussion group continues to be very popular with local adults.

-- Maureen Johns, Director

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

The Wells Memorial Library archives are now open from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. every Thursday or by special appointment with archivist Marilyn McDonald. A list of available archival records may be obtained at the circulation desk or by calling the library at 946-2644.

Kathy Recchia plans to start a theater group for children aged six and above. The group will meet at the library on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. beginning in early October. For more information or to sign up, please call or visit the library during regular hours.

We recently completed the restoration, preservation, and consolidation of the shingles and lower trim of the original library building thanks to a Public Library Construction Grant. A volunteer has refinished and painted the front porch and steps to match the porch on the 2001 addition. In August we hosted the "Stepping Back in Time" presentation by Bob and Holly Bearor and a series of three art classes on "Landscape Techniques" for children eight and over. Our twice-monthly children's activity programs and our monthly "Tea and Talk" programs continue to be very popular.

On November 9, 2002 we are having an Open House at 1:00 pm to celebrate the 95th anniversary of the first book being borrowed from the library. At this time, we will draw the winning raffle ticket for the Nathan Farb print "Hulls Basin Falls". Tickets will be sold until the drawing for \$1.00 each or a book of 10 for \$8.00.

-- Sylvia Norton

Wadhams Free Library

Our annual Bubble Day on August 1 was so much fun! Bubble Captain Bridgette Blemel had prepared four "stations" for the scientific investigation of bubbles. We made round bubbles, square bubbles, bubbles within bubbles. We put kids inside bubbles, learned about the recent stock market bubble and the great cosmic bubbles that form the galaxies. Refreshments included bubble gum and carbonated beverages. Bubble wrap was popped with gusto. We're looking forward to Bubblemania 2003.

We're excited to have published the first issue of The Wadhams Free Library News. We had been talking about doing a newsletter for some time and finally got it off the drawing board. We hope to publish three issues a year.

We're starting a new series of "Wednesdays in Wadhams" lectures which will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the library. Topics for the fall include "Gardens of Use and Delight on September 25 by Jigs and Jo Ann Gardner; "Two Tickets to Timbuctoo" on October 16 by Shirley Richter; "Adventuring in New Zealand on November 20 with Gary Randorf; and "A Trip to South Africa" on December 11 by Angie DeGroff.

Thanks to library board member Ray Matteau, we are able to add an evening to our schedule. The library will now be open on Tuesdays from 3:00 to 9:00, Wednesdays from 6:00 to 9:00, and Thursdays from 3:00 to 9:00.

-- Liz Rapalee, Director

In Franklin County:

Akwesasne Library

The Akwesasne Library's Summer Theater Group, under the direction of Marita Thompson, presented "The Great Ball Game" to an appreciative audience on Thursday, August 15. The story is based on a Native legend which is told and retold in the Northeast, the Southwest, and the Plains regions. This story is also retold by Joseph Bruchac in the book *The Great Ball Game*. A special thank you is due to our summer performers who came faithfully to rehearsals each week and to those last minute participants who quickly learned their lines and roles. The performers enjoyed

pizza and wings before the show and refreshments were provided to the audience after the show. It was a gala night and we hope to do it again next summer.

-- from an article by Emily Tarbell written for Indian Time, August 22 issue. Emily has been employed at the library for the past few months and has helped with the barcoding project. Director Carol White says that Emily was also a tremendous help with the Great Ball Game. She has accepted a job in the Mohawk Valley area and will be greatly missed.

Saranac Lake Free Library

All in the community were invited to the “We’re Growing” campaign kick-off at the Saranac Lake Free Library from Monday to Friday, September 23 to 27. Library board members and volunteers were on hand from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. to share their enthusiasm for the expansion plans and to offer tours and treats. Balloons and banners festooned the library entrance, while a banner spread the word at the Route 86 entrance to Saranac Lake.

On Wednesday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m., Paul Mays, the architect from Butler, Rowland and Mays, a firm that specializes in library design, presented plans for the proposed upgrade and expansion. Saranac Lake Free Library board members and campaign hosts provided refreshments and personal tours.

Renovation plans include 3,178 square feet of space, with a children’s room, additional storage, and work space for the William Chapman White Memorial Adirondack Room, improved handicapped accessibility, including an elevator and bathrooms, staff work space, and reinterpretation of the Dickert Wildlife Collection.

-- Pat Wiley

No Scarcity of Halloween Websites

Halloween web sites are as plentiful as those healthy treats left in the bottom of your average trick or treat bag! Here are some of our favorites that parents might enjoy exploring with their children.

www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/halloween - Dare to visit this site for some spooky fun! It features eCards, clip art, games, costume ideas, recommended books, safety tips,

crafts projects, printable puzzles, and jokes and riddles. (Why do mummies make good employees? They get all wrapped up in their work).

www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/halowen/halowen.htm - It's lots of fun to carve your own pumpkin that you can send as a card at Billy Bear's site! We liked the haunted maze and "party food" sections as well.

www.halloween-safety.com - Plan to be safe this Halloween. This site features tips for kids, adults, and pets, as well as "yard haunts" and costume and party ideas.

www.pumpkin-patch.com - Did you know that pumpkins were once used for removing freckles and curing snake bites? Learn all about fall's most favored squash and take a trip to a pumpkin farm at this cool site!

www.yahooligans.com/around_the_world/holidays/Halloween - If you haven't found that great idea yet, check out this comprehensive site for more fun! It features coloring, crafts, costume ideas, dozens of links, a history of Halloween from the History Channel, and much more.

-- Compiled by Kathie LaBombard, Children's Consultant, CEF

2002 Outreach Minigrants Awarded

Twelve member libraries, two reading centers, and seven state correctional facility libraries have been awarded a total of over \$10,400 in Coordinated Outreach funds. Projects will serve "special populations" in the service area of recipients during the remainder of 2002.

Several libraries such as Hammond Library, Crown Point and Sherman Free Library, Port Henry, have already used their mini-grant check to bolster their large print book collections and are getting positive feedback from local seniors. The Saranac Lake Free Library will purchase English as a Second Language read-along CD's to serve adults with intermediate English language proficiency. The Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay and the Keeseville Free Library plan to replace "much loved old favorites" in the juvenile collections and will promote these materials to economically and educationally disadvantaged children and their families. Correctional facility projects will focus on providing current pre-release materials and books on parenting in Spanish and English.

As always, we are very pleased with the diversity of the projects planned and the creativity that will be used to carry them out. We are going full speed ahead once again to fulfill our motto that “a little bit goes a long way!”

"Sited" in the Adirondacks

This is the first part of a Trailblazer series in which we'll present web sites dealing with different aspects of life in the Adirondacks. There are many excellent web pages full of all sorts of information about the Adirondacks. In order to do the area justice we need to break it down into several categories. In this issue we're presenting some sites with good information on outdoor life in the Adirondacks—hiking, biking, and enjoyment of what this wonderful area has to offer.

The Adirondack Regional Tourism Council has a great site at www.adirondacks.org, which I really like a lot. There is a wide variety of information here. One of my favorite toys is the interactive “scenic byways” tour, where you can create your own map of an area, complete with good routes and sites to visit. Historic sites are included and the Park is broken down into regions. You can zoom in and out, a feature that kept me busy for a long time. Naturally the site has plenty of other information to offer as well. No offering on the Adirondack Park would be complete without good hiking guides and the Adirondack Mountain Club site is the perfect spot for just that: www.adk.org is where you can find great hiking routes and location information for trailheads. The most comprehensive information about the highest peaks is found at the Adirondack 46ers site, www.adk46r.org, where there is a list of the peaks, a members roster, links to members' pages, lots of scenic pictures along with anecdotal information and accounts of ascents. You can create your own topographic map to save or purchase in hard copy at www.mytopo.com. I had a great time with this one (again, the zoom feature entertained me for a long time). This is a great site for creating your favorite route but keep in mind that it's a commercial site. The Nature Conservancy's site includes descriptions of and directions to its Adirondack preserves. The address is www.nature.org. If you want good information on biking the Adirondacks, check out www.bikeadirondacks.org, where you'll find information on trails, events, maps and centers inside the Park. There's also in-depth information on development of new paths, initiatives, unit management plans and organizations which are active in the area. The Olympic Regional Development Authority in Lake Placid has a huge amount of information on venues, events, activities and is a great place to check for the progress of fall foliage. Its address is www.orda.org. Another comprehensive government site is the New York State Department of Conservation, which has information on regulations for all sorts of activities, including fishing, boating and hunting, camping and trail activities, but also lists trail conditions and forest rangers in the area. DEC's address is www.dec.state.ny.us/website/site.

-- Elizabeth Rogers

Grant Watch

November 1 is the deadline for applications to the Lake Placid Education Foundation. Libraries are supported through grants for collection additions, special studies, staff training, operations, and equipment.

Award amounts typically range from \$100 to as much as \$50,000 in special circumstances. Recipients are notified in January, and payment is made the following August. For a brochure that outlines the Foundation's programs and the application process, contact the Lake Placid Education Foundation at: Crestview Plaza, Lake Placid, NY 12946 or call 523-4433.

Mystery Men Quiz

Those Keeseville Free Library puzzlers have come up with another brainteaser guaranteed to drive you to the screaming point just in time for Halloween. Each of the following leading men is featured in at least two books. Your task: name the author. Submit your entry on this form to Julie Wever, ATTN: Trailblazer Quiz by Friday, October 25. The three participants with the most correct answers will win a prize sure to please your brain and your palate! The answer key will appear in the next issue of the Trailblazer and, in case you can't wait, we'll post it on the CEF web site (www.cefls.org) during the week of October 28. Thank you to Ann Garcia & Co. at the Keeseville Free Library. Enjoy!

Leading Man Author

- Alex Cross _____
- Alex _____
- Delaware _____
- Barnaby _____
- Skye _____
- Ben _____
- Kincaid _____
- Bernard _____
- Sampson _____
- Butch Karp _____
- Cliff _____
- Janeway _____
- Dave _____
- Robicheaux _____
- David _____

Small _____
Dismas _____
Hardy _____
Greg _____
Monarch _____
Harry _____
Bosch _____
Inspector _____
Morse _____
Jack Aubrey _____
Jack _____
Reacher _____
Jack Ryan _____
Jim Chee _____
Joe _____
Gunther _____
Joe Pickett _____
John Corey _____
Kidd _____
Lincoln _____
Rhyme _____
Lou Boldt _____
Lucas _____
Davenport _____
Par _____
Ohmsford _____
Patrick _____
McLanahan _____
Paul _____
Brenner _____
Paul _____
Madriani _____
Rayford _____
Steel _____
Richard _____
Bolitho _____

Have You Heard?

Amy Treffers has replaced Susan Hughes as Director of the Elizabethtown Library Association. Welcome Amy! Best wishes to Susan Hughes who has retired after four years of service.

Cindy Pytlak has taken the reins as Director of the Dodge Library, West Chazy. Best

wishes to Sarah Lushia who is pursuing her education in children's services.

Jody Gibbons has left CEF to take the Lending Services Coordinator position at Plattsburgh Public Library. Best wishes to Jody.

As of October 4, **Marilyn Blanchard** is retiring after 27 years with CEFLS. Congratulations, Marilyn! (See the interview with Marilyn in this issue)

Beverly Harris has been appointed Interim Director of the Plattsburgh Public Library. Best wishes to Anne Minter O'Donnell who has taken a new post in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

As of Friday, September 13, The North Hudson Reading Center has officially closed its doors. The Reading Center had been run for the past three years by a dedicated team of volunteers under the direction of **Flora Ingalls**.

After more than 40 years of service, **Chalice Dechene** has retired from her position of Director of the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library, Tupper Lake. Although Chalice looks forward to her retirement, which was official on August 15, she is staying on until a replacement is found. The Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Library invite everyone to a retirement reception for Chalice on Thursday, October 10 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Congratulations to **Patti Perez** who has been promoted to Assistant Director of the Lake Placid Public Library. **Julie Montgomery** has taken over Patti's interlibrary loan duties and "is having a ball" with ICICILL.

Mary Kay Rillahan has retired as Director of the Peru Free Library effective October 1. Mary Kay has been a mainstay of the Peru Free Library since 1978. She served on the CEF Board of Trustees from 1995 to December 2001. Congratulations and Best wishes, Mary Kay! We also wish to welcome Kristin Figel, who has been appointed as the new director of Peru.

On September 27, **Georgianna Delacore** retired from the Plattsburgh Public Library after nearly 30 years of service as a Library Clerk. Gina will be missed at the circulation desk by library customers, and by her colleagues at the reference desk who could always count on her to help answer those tricky questions about the stock market!

Local Library Websites Flourish

A number of the libraries in our three counties have web sites, and each one has a personality of its own! Take a tour of your neighboring libraries by visiting the sites below, and let us know if we have missed any so we can include them in the next Trailblazer!

Akwesasne Library - www.nc3r.org/akwlibr/

This web site contains information about both the library and the museum at the Akwesasne Cultural Center in Hogansburg. You can find a wonderful collection of Native American links here – it's a great place to point students doing research.

AuSable Forks Free Library - www.kvvi.net/~ausable/

This library provides lists of new acquisitions, arranged by age level and type. The search options on the site are very sophisticated.

Hammond Library, Crown Point - www.hammondlibrary.com

This very attractively designed site contains the library's history and some good reference links, including child-safe Internet resources.

Keene Valley Library Association - www.kvvi.net/~library/

The Keene Valley Library's web site contains interesting information about its unique art collection, as well as some online encyclopedias, links to Icepac resources, and new acquisitions.

Lake Placid Public Library - www.lakeplacidlibrary.org

This brand new web site is very attractive and has something for everyone! The virtual tour alone is worth a visit. Links to library catalogs, online databases and general reference links are all conveniently presented, along with the history of the library and information about its special collections.

Port Henry's Sherman Free Library - www.porthenry.com/phframes/library.htm

The website of the Sherman Free Library focuses on the history of this architectural gem. Links to local town web sites and the library's hours are also featured.

Saranac Lake Free Library - www.nc3r.org/slfl/

There's a lot going on at the Saranac Lake Free Library, as evidenced by the library notes, photo album, list of art exhibitions and other events listed on the library's web site.

Willsboro's Paine Memorial Library

- www.willsborony.com/PaineMemorialLibrary/

The Paine Memorial Library highlights its many services to patrons, especially children and youth, on its web site. Where else can you find quilting, landfill permits, piano lessons and rare books under one roof?

Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library

- www.nc3r.org/wilmingtonlibrary/

The Wilmington E.M. Cooper Library provides a well developed set of reference links, including local Wilmington and Adirondack links, tax forms, federal and state links, and genealogy links.

-- Betsy Brooks, CEF Automation Librarian

Troubleshooting Your Internet Connection

Since last year, we've seen a lot of changes in the level of technology in our libraries. The Gates Grant affected many libraries, as did the arrival of cable and DSL Internet connections. Like it or not, many library directors and staff members have become network administrators. For those of you in the trenches, I've gathered some examples of the snafus that have happened with Internet connections in area libraries over the past year, and what solved the problem. If you do have a problem getting to the Internet, and you need help or advice, don't hesitate to give us a call!

Scenario #1:

A patron (or staff member?) has kicked, nudged, switched off or unplugged the power cord that supplies power to one of your network devices. This happens quite a bit. If you notice the absence of those little green and yellow lights on your cable modem, your router or your network switch, try just turning on the power to these devices. You may have to restart every device in order – starting from the modem and working back to the computer.

Scenario #2:

The Internet Service Provider (ISP) is having trouble with its equipment or the telecommunications lines. Sometimes it really is their fault. It may be hard to reach them, but it's worth it if all else fails. In one case, a dial-up ISP changed its local access telephone number and didn't adequately warn the library. In another case, the cable company told one of the libraries that it just needed to "burp" the cable modem from their end. That solved the problem. Who would have guessed that it needed burping?

Scenario #3:

The cable or DSL router or the dialup-sharing router just decides to take a vacation. The lights are on and blinking, but the router isn't doing its job. This is a little hard to verify, but it happens more often than you would guess. If the Internet Service Provider tells you everything is fine at their end, and everything looks normal with your networking equipment, but all of your computers are unable to surf the Internet, this is the likely cause. Sometimes the router needs to be replaced, and sometimes it just needs to be restarted or reprogrammed. At CEF we can help you diagnose and fix this problem, and we now have a spare router that we can loan you if yours stops functioning.

Scenario #4:

Only one of your computers is having a problem. This indicates that either the software settings, the network card or the network cabling on that computer are faulty. We would be glad to try to help to troubleshoot this. If it's a Gates Grant computer, the technical support people in Seattle are also a good resource.

-- Betsy Brooks, Automation Librarian

PR Corner

There's a lot to celebrate @ the Library this fall in addition to the usual assortment of pumpkin-based events. Teen Read Week (October 13 - 19) presents one good opportunity to promote reading and libraries to this notoriously hard to reach group. The theme for National Teen Read Week 2002 is "Get Graphic @ your Library". Check out the Missouri Library Association's Young Adult Special Interest Group web site at www.geocities.com/mlyasig/index.html for some very do-able and creative program ideas. The ALA web site (www.ala.org/teenread/trw) also lists many book based ideas that tie in with this year's theme and gives a fairly comprehensive list of web sites and articles about graphic novels and comics and careers in graphic arts.

Book Time is the theme for the 83rd observance of The Children's Book Council's Children's Book Week which will be celebrated from November 18-24, 2002. The goal of this event is to encourage children and the adults who care for them to make time each day to spend with a favorite book. Check out the CBC's web site at [www.cbc books.org/html/bookweek.html](http://www.cbcbooks.org/html/bookweek.html) for tons of resources such as complete suggested activities, "Celebrating Book Week A to Z" tips, related links, and a very well done tip sheet entitled Plan, Promote and Publicize Book Week in PDF format. This handy guide will lead you through the planning process step by step. The site's

downloadable activities, which include a 2002 Book Week poster to color and crossword puzzles that feature best books for kids, may also be especially useful for libraries strapped for time and cash.

We want to hear from you! If you try any of the ideas listed on these sites or your own favorites to promote Children's Book Week or Teen Read Week @ your library, please let us know so we can share your experience in our next issue!

A Preview of Things to Come