

FILLS NEWS

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Carol Hendrix, Editor

One hundred and twelve member library trustees, library directors, System staff and interested citizens, attended our 45th Annual Meeting, held at the Seneca Falls Country Club, on a very windy (!) 15th of October. We had representation from each of the five counties in our service area, from the southern most tip, Waverly Free Library to the most northern, Fair Haven Public Library, twenty-two in all.

During the business portion of the meeting, three new System trustees were elected: James Vivencio and Marianne O'Connor representing Cayuga County, and Mary Ellen Rumsey representing Tompkins County. Three current trustees are extending their terms: Gunhild Chris Carroll for Seneca County, Robert Boothroyd for Tompkins County and Valerie Kelly representing Tioga County.

Our guest speaker, Miriam Grace Monfredo, author of many historic novels, some based in Seneca Falls, was wonderfully entertaining as well as informative.

The System Annual Awards were presented as follows:

- **Joan Cooke Youth Services Award** – given to **Vickie Wheeler**, Weedsport Free Library, presented by Diana McFarland, Youth Services Consultant.
- **Trustee of the Year Award** – given to **Sam Dickieson**, Mynderse Library, Seneca Falls, presented by Finger Lakes Library System Trustee Lynn Patti, Seneca County.
- **Library Directors of the Year Award** – given to **Gail Park**, Director of the Southworth Library Association, Dryden and **Judith Barkee**, Director of the Ulysses Philomathic Library, Trumansburg, presented by Executive Director Karen Creenan.
- **Ruth Polson Public Service Award** – given to **Janet Hogan**, Apalachin, for her expertise in coordinating the Tioga County libraries in presenting their case to their legislators for library funding, presented by Roy Yarrington, Trustee, Finger Lakes Library System, Tioga County.

All had a wonderful time!

“October’s Bright Blue Weather”

O suns and skies and clouds of June,
And flowers of June together,
Ye cannot rival for one hour
October’s bright blue weather.

When loud the bumblebee makes haste,
Belated, thriftless vagrant,
And Golden Rod is dying fast,
And lanes with grapes are fragrant;

When Gentians roll their fringes tight,
To save them for the morning,
And chestnuts fall from satin burrs
Without a sound of warning.

When on the ground red apples lie
In piles like jewels shining,
And redder still on old stone walls
Are leaves of woodbine twining;

When all the lovely wayside things
Their white-winged seeds are sowing,
And in the fields, still green and fair,
Late aftermaths are growing;

When springs run low, and on the brooks,
In idle golden freighting,
Bright leaves sink noiseless in the hush
Of woods, for winter waiting;

When comrades seek sweet country haunts,
By twos and twos together,
And count like misers, hour by hour,
October’s bright blue weather.

O suns and skies and flowers of June,
Count all your boasts together,
Love loveth best of all the year
October’s bright blue weather.

by Helen Hunt Jackson

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Intellectual Freedom vs. Censorship

One Affirmed, 17 to Go

Some six months after a Fairfax, Virginia, couple challenged the presence of 18 books in the libraries of the Fairfax County (Va.) Public Schools (AL, Dec. 2002, p. 23), the school board affirmed in a 7-1 vote on March 10 that one of the contested titles, *Witch Baby*, by Francesca Lia Block, is suitable for elementary and middle-school collections. The action supported Superintendent Daniel Domenech's recommendation to retain the book, as well as the placement of a young adult sticker on its spine.

Richard and Alice Ess had contested that the book, which is the sequel to *Weetzie Bat*, was inappropriate for school-library collections because it contains a gay-positive subplot. "We now know the school system does not consider placement of fictional material advocating 'alternative' sexual orientations, even in the elementary schools, to be a mistake on their part," the local group Parents Against Bad Books in Schools reacted March 14 on its Web site (www.pabbis.com/news.htm). As to the addition of a young-adult label, PABBIS countered, "If a book receiving a YA review is eligible for placement in the elementary and middle schools, there will be a flood of graphic material, bought with tax dollars, heading for pre-teen children."

Two months earlier, the board had revisited its policy on what constitutes a valid materials challenge in light of the Esses' mass complaint last October.

American Libraries, Censorship Watch, April 2003

Children's Book Week

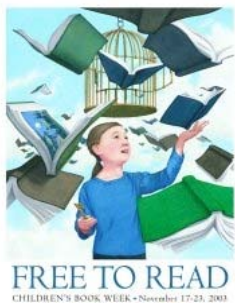
November 17—23, 2003

Free to Read!

Reading is a right!
Free to Read, this year's theme for the 84th observance of The Children's Book Council's Children's Book Week, encourages children, and the adults who care for them, to exercise your right

by spending some time with a book each day.

For info on how to celebrate the week in your library, please visit http://www.cbcbbooks.org/html/book_week.html



Dynix Regional Training Sessions

The Regional Training Workshops are ending, and even though networking issues continued to plague the attendees, for the most part, the workshops were a success.

The PC Reliance and iPac workshops held in July were represented by 19 libraries with 29 member library staff attending. This workshop focused on using the backup software and use of the various functions in iPac.

The Holdings Maintenance workshop held in August was represented by 19 libraries with 26 member library staff attending. For some, this was a review of cataloging shortcuts and tips, while for others, this was completely new information.



The Reports workshop held in September was represented by 23 libraries with 32 member library staff attending. This workshop dealt with the most efficient way to submit report requests, how they work, how to access reports in MISCRA and various canned reports available in Dynix.

These are some of the comments received regarding the various workshops:

- "I keep picking up so many new tricks, I can't wait to put them into practice"
- "I feel much more confident!"
- "Every time we have training we learn something new."

We will continue to offer regional training in 2004. Some suggested topics are Windows applications, such as Excel, Word and Microsoft Publisher, Interlibrary Loan, and advanced searching techniques.

Finger Lakes Library System trainer Jan Aguirre would like to thank the libraries who were gracious enough to host these sessions, who came in early "to allow me to set up and who provided snacks for all of us; a very special thank you to Candor, Homer, Trumansburg and Weedsport. I would also like to commend the staff who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend these sessions; your dedication and desire to improve your skills in Dynix will benefit the entire system."

Department News:



Picture drawn by Marisa's niece, Nancy McNamara

Adult Services Marisa Iacobucci

Recently I read the following article in the Central Kansas Library System newsletter. James Swan, the administrator for the system, expresses how important it is to maintain a good library image inside and out. After reading it through, I feel I couldn't have written it better myself, so I am reprinting it below.

Library Image and Performance

This past week, I went out in the System to take pictures of libraries for the Web pages we are going to develop for libraries without a presence on the Internet. When we take pictures, we tend to notice details. I noticed some details that I believe are worth mentioning.

One of the best things librarians and board members can do for their libraries is to put their best foot forward and make sure their library is fit for visitors. I believe it is one of the best things we can do to improve our chances for better funding.

Here is a checklist I have developed to help us assess our performance and image in the community. Board members could review these questions at a board meeting and set goals for improving the way their library looks to the public.

1. Is the name of your library clearly visible from the street?
2. Are library hours visible from the street?
3. Is library parking adequate?
4. Is library parking especially marked for short-term parking?
5. Is parking for patrons with disabilities clearly marked?
6. Does the library have a curbside book deposit for after-hours book-return?
7. Do library grounds and exterior appearance meet or exceed community standards?
8. Is the library handicapped accessible?
9. Are library hours adequate to meet community needs?
10. Is the library collection current and readily available?
11. Do the books look new and inviting to the reader?
12. Does the physical arrangement draw people in?
13. Is the staff friendly and courteous?
14. Is the staff knowledgeable and helpful?
15. Is the library a nice place to be?

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Barbara B. Melvin *selected as a* **"2003 Woman of Distinction"** **by Senator John R. Kuhl, Jr.**



On June 3, 2003, a celebration occurred to observe the enormous contributions made by the women of New York State, at the Legislative Office Building in Albany. Welcoming Remarks were given by Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno and Senator Mary Lou Rath.

Barbara B. Melvin, a certified public librarian, who believes that public libraries are the true "university of the people," was honored. In addition to employment at several libraries in the Ithaca area, her time has been spent working unpaid for public schools and libraries.

Ms. Melvin devoted several years after retirement to plan and obtain a new building for the Ulysses Philomathic Library in Trumansburg, serving as chair and developer of the capital campaign. She labored to raise \$1.4 million from more than one thousand sources and credits the project's success to the camaraderie of the leadership group along with overwhelming enthusiasm from the public.

Throughout her life, "Not to be Served but to Serve," her Wellesley College motto, has been her guiding light. Ms. Melvin's broad range of volunteer efforts includes serving as President of the Board of Education and Friends of the Library and Trustee of Cooperative Extension, B.O.C.E.S., to name but a few. This year she is serving in the capacity of co-chairman to help organize the convention for New York State P.E.O., an international Philanthropic Educational Organization that exists to promote education for women and to assist worthy students of all ages.

Congratulations, Barbara, from all your friends and colleagues in the Finger Lakes Library System!

Computer Corner

Eric Franks, FLLS Computer Specialist



Monthly Computer Maintenance

In the spring and summer newsletters I talked about using the Microsoft Update feature to keep Windows 2000/XP and Microsoft Office up to date with security patches and bug fixes. In this issue, I would like to clarify some procedures for Microsoft and anti-virus updates as well as add some additional monthly maintenance procedures.

Anti-Virus

Anti-virus updates should be an ongoing, weekly maintenance item. Virus and worm programs seem to be coming along faster these days, and they also seem to be more difficult to protect against. Doing a weekly update of anti-virus software is a good deterrent.

On a monthly basis, FLLS recommends using your anti-virus software to do a complete system scan on your computers. This will help detect any virus that may have slipped in between your weekly definition updates. This process can take some time depending on the speed of your computer, the version of the anti-virus software and the number of files and programs you have installed. On average, it may take about a half hour to run.

Microsoft Windows and Office

Microsoft Windows and Office updates can be as important as the anti-virus updates at times. Microsoft will use the Windows Update function to patch security holes, fix program bugs and add functionality to existing programs. FLLS recommends doing monthly Windows and Office updates.

Apply all Office updates that are available. The update function should work for Microsoft Office 97, 2000 and XP. Remember to have your installation disks handy as Office updates may require those disks to finish properly.

We recommend only installing Windows updates that fall into the "Critical Updates and Service Packs" section. You should only need to update Windows 2000 and Windows XP computers. Although Windows 98 was the first operating system to add the Windows Update function, applying updates to that operating system may cause other programs to stop working. This is especially true of security software such as Full Armor.

Internet Connection

A new maintenance procedure that we are recommending is the power cycling of your Internet connection hardware.

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Youth Services

Grant Opportunities for Services to Youth

Milagro Foundation

The Milagro Foundation offers grants ranging between \$2,500 - \$5,000 to community-based organizations that work with children and youth, especially those at risk and disadvantaged due to such factors as poor health, illiteracy, or insufficient educational and cultural opportunities. The focus is on projects which address health education, literacy, and arts and culture education. Examples of projects that have been funded recently are reading and cultural enrichment programs in Spanish for community residents & children; and artists fees and materials for the Multicultural Arts Summer School serving children in the Mission area of San Francisco. **There is an open deadline for applications.** For more information, please visit <http://www.milagrofoundation.org/faq.asp>.

Libri Foundation

The Libri Foundation is a nonprofit organization that donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States through its Books for Children Program. The Foundation works with the library's Friends of the Library or other local organizations because they believe in community involvement and want to encourage and reward local support of libraries. Of particular interest are rural libraries that serve a population under 5,000, have a very limited budget, and have an active children's department. The Foundation will match on a 2-to-1 ration funding (from \$50 to \$350) that the Friends, or other local supporters, contribute. Applications must be postmarked by November 15, 2003. To request an application packet, please e-mail your name and your library's name and address to The Libri Foundation at librifdn@teleport.com. Applications may also be requested by writing to The Libri Foundation, P.O. Box 10246, Eugene, Oregon 97440; by phone, (541)-747-9655; or by fax, (541) 747-4348. For more information, please visit <http://www.librifoundation.org/>.

We The People Book Grants

The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) are accepting applications from public and school (K-12) libraries for the We The People Bookshelf grants. Part of NEH's We The People initiative, the Bookshelf project will award the 15 Bookshelf books for young readers to up to 500

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(continued from page 4, **Computer Corner**)

Most of the libraries have either cable Internet (RoadRunner), or DSL (Clarity Connect). There are a few exceptions to this like Cincinnatus, Poplar Ridge and part of the networks in Auburn and Moravia. If you have Frame Relay connections, or another, non-cable or DSL connection, you won't need to do this maintenance.

Power cycling the equipment will take about 5 minutes and should be done before or after hours because it will interrupt the Internet connection. It is also a good idea if the computers in the library are powered off. It won't hurt them if they are turned on, however, but after the reset they may not have Internet access until they are rebooted.

The cable and DSL connections have two components, a modem and a router. Modems from Road Runner usually have "Motorola," "Road Runner" or "Surfboard" written on them. The DSL modems will vary.

The routers that are installed in most of the libraries will be "Netopia," "Linksys" or "Belkin."

Usually the quickest and easiest way to power cycle these pieces of equipment is by unplugging the power cord from the back of the box. The power cord is usually black and will always be the one cable that can be unplugged without having to undo any type of connector. It is also acceptable to unplug the modem or router on the wall outlet side if that is easier for you to reach.

This is another reason why having your computers powered off may be a good idea. Some libraries have computer power cords in the same wall outlet or power strip as the cable/DLS modem or router. If you accidentally unplug the wrong piece of equipment, no harm will be done.

Once the power cable has been removed, leave the equipment off for one (1) minute. After that minute, plug the cable and/or DSL modem in first and wait about 15 seconds. Then plug the power back into the router. Given another 15 seconds, the network should be back and ready for you to turn on your computers.

The reason that we are recommending this additional monthly procedure is that we've been finding, especially with the Road Runner connections, that resetting the modem and router seems to keep the connection running smooth and fast.

If you aren't sure what type of Internet connection you have in your library, or have any questions about unplugging your equipment, please give the Computer Network Services department a call.

New Professional Materials

- **Learning to Learn: A guide to Becoming Information Literate.** By Ann Marlow Riedling, Neal-Schuman Publishers, © 2002

This user-friendly, step-by-step guide is designed to help students from middle school through the beginning college level master the essential information literacy skills and become effective, efficient learners.

- **Pete Seeger's Storytelling Book.** By Pete Seeger & Paul DuBois Jacobs. Harvest Books, © 2000

From Booklist. Valuable for parents, teachers, camp counselors and librarians, this cozy collection will not only be a ready resource but also may encourage novice storytellers to strike out on their own.

- **Planning the Modern Public Library Building.** Edited by Gerard B. McCabe & James R. Kennedy, Libraries Unlimited, © 2003

This collection of 22 highly informative essays offers library professionals important insight into current activities in the area of building planning.

- **Preventing Job Burnout: Transforming Work Pressures Into Productivity.** By Beverly A. Potter, PhD, Crisp Publications, © 1996

"Preventing Job Burnout" uses interactive self-assessments, case studies, and evaluations to help you develop your personal power and a positive perspective. Written as a practical hands-on guide, it will teach you what burnout is, what causes it, and how to assess the burnout potential of your job.

- **Networking for Success: The Art of Establishing Personal Contacts.** By Nancy Flynn, Crisp Publications, © 2003

"Networking for Success" will show you how to establish and cultivate contacts with a purpose. There is no one-size-fits-all approach – everyone has a certain networking style and "Networking for Success" will help you to understand your style, and to design an approach that will work for you.

(continued from page 4, **Youth Services**)

libraries across the country. Selected libraries are required to present programs that highlight the theme of "courage" and encourage young readers to explore these works.

Libraries interested in receiving the We The People Bookshelf grant can view the application and guidelines at www.ala.org/wethepeople or www.wethepeople.gov. Applications are being accepted online until October 22, 2003 for Round One and February 15, 2004 for Round Two.

Member News:

A note from the editor: Due to the close deadlines for the FALL NEWS newsletter and the Annual Meeting Brochure, the member news column is brief!

Aurora

Our flower garden bloomed beautifully all summer greeting visitors with begonias spelling READ and big yellow marigolds surrounding it. Summer was busy as usual highlighted by a very successful summer reading program. I spy, oobleck, picture frames, and scratch art crafts were all big hits with the children and many books were read. The Bubbleman entertained one of our largest audiences at the annual Teddy Bears' Picnic in August. A 2003 Aurorafest Parade trophy was won for "Best Children's Entry" and sits on the mantle. In September Aurora joined other Cayuga County libraries to promote Cayuga Connect at Auburn's annual Tomatofest.

Cato

The Lang Library would like to introduce our new support staff member, Barb Lindo. Barb volunteered at the library before leaving for a position with Walden Books two years ago. She currently works part time at the Beaver Lake Animal Hospital along with her library position. Barb holds a degree in history from Oswego State University and also does genealogy research for individuals. We are all very happy to have Barb back and look forward to expanding our library services to take advantage of her many talents.

We also are currently enjoying the company of two special lodgers, Chewy and Chomps. Chewy and Chomps are monarch caterpillars donated by a local college student. The caterpillars stay in a uniquely designed house and dine on milkweed leaves - constantly. Patrons have enjoyed watching them develop and learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar. The library will hold a special ceremony when Chewy and Chomps leave the library to begin their lives as butterflies.

Thanks to a FLLS program two years ago, the library pushed ahead with its efforts to organize a book discussion group despite a slow start. Through the years the group has been small but the participants dedicated. We are please to announce that because the program has grown so much, we will host two discussion groups this fall. Please let us know if you have any recommendations for titles, we are always on the lookout for a good read and a good conversation.

Waterloo

The Waterloo Library is trying some new and exciting things that we would like to tell you about. One of the things that we are doing is starting a Friends of the Library group. So far, we have eight people signed up. I am really looking forward to all of the great things a Friends group can do for our library.

Aaron Isaacs is going to hold a magic workshop here at the library. The workshop is for children ages ten and up who are interested in learning the art of magic. For a small fee, the children will receive a start-up kit and be enrolled in the four class course. So if any aspiring, young magicians are out there, please contact us.

I know our patrons are glad that we are, once again, open on Saturdays. I am anxious to receive our rotating Book on-CD collection from FLLS. Our collection of Books-on-CD is very small, as we only purchase one per month. I know this is a collection that are patrons will be glad to see in our library.

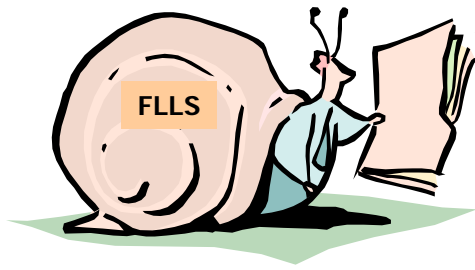
All of our programs are up and running. Michael Becker just gave a review of *The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold at our monthly Book Nook. It was well received and well attended. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the insightful review and some of the people are interested in reading the book. In a couple of months we will be listening to a review of *Seabiscuit*. I know I am looking forward to that one.

Our children's programs are also starting up. We kicked off Creative Corner with the kids making mobiles. Apples and school buses decorated with sequins dangled from the mobile. The pre-schoolers will also be attempting the mobile (maybe with help from mom and dad) at Pre-School Story Time.

In order to better serve our patrons, we are trying to offer programs that are beneficial to all different age groups. In October, we hope to have a workshop on how to winterize your garden. A few other programs that we are looking forward to hosting are ID Fraud protection, how to start researching your family tree, and a Veteran's Day Remembrance.

We hope everyone is looking forward to Fall as much as we are!





I may look like a snail, but I'm handing in my report EARLY!

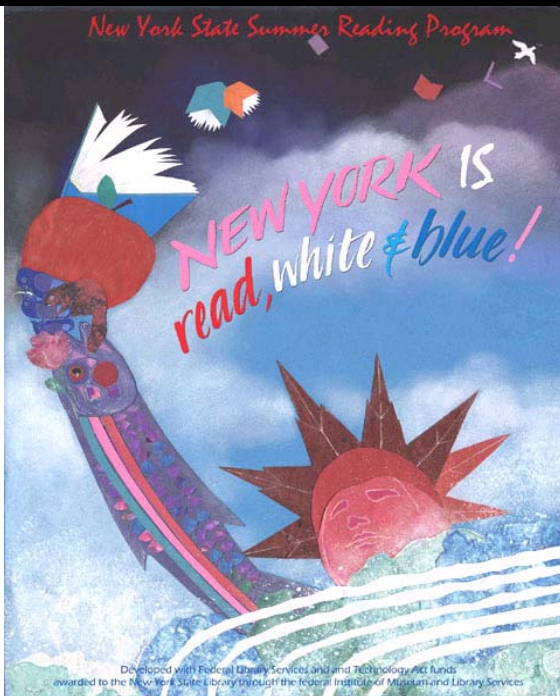
In anticipation of finishing the Annual Reports early, Marisa has decided to have the Annual Report Workshop at the December System Meeting. (gulp...) The Meeting will be Thursday, December 4th 9:30—noon.

PLEASE encourage all those involved with completing the report to attend (ie—treasurers, trustees, etc.)

More information will be forthcoming!



2004 Summer Reading Theme



2004 New York State
Summer
Reading theme is
“New York is read,
white, and blue!”

To visit the State's website, please go to <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/summer/index.html>



**BIG NEWS FROM
THE FLLS
VIDEO DEPT.!**

***CHANGES TO THE VIDEO LABELING SYSTEM ***

Non-Fiction videos now have a Dewey number and all others will have genres indicated on the spine and in the bibliographic record. Look for the changes!

NEW TITLES!

THE GOOD GIRL

Starring: Jennifer Anniston, Jake Gyllenhaal, John C. Reilly

A young wife has become bored with marriage and her dead-end job and seeks something more fulfilling. When a passionate co-worker catches her eye and steals her heart, they have an illicit affair that has unexpected and comical results.

LIVE FROM BAGHDAD: BREAKING NEWS-MAKING HISTORY

Starring: Michael Keaton, Helena Bonham Carter

In 1990, CNN was a 24-hour news network in search of a 24-hour story. They find it in Baghdad when producer Robert Wiener and his partner arrive in Iraq on the eve of war. A Director's Guild Award-winning HBO movie.

NOT NEW, BUT WORTH A VIEW!

"STAR TREK", THE ORIGINAL AND UN-cut TELEVISION SERIES.

Enjoy taking a walk down memory lane with Captain Kirk and the crew of the star ship Enterprise. And we have the entire series! All episodes! Reserve your favorite episode today!

JERRY LEWIS IS HERE!

We've got: The Nutty Professor, 1963; Who's Minding the Store, 1963; and The Family Jewels, 1963.

Contact Malia Newby, AV Associate, at ext. 24 for more information!

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We never get a second chance to make a first impression. Lots of people drive by your library every day, but few of them come in. Their image of the library will be based on what they see from the outside. They will notice the lawn, the parking, the exterior of the building, the landscaping, and the signage. They will also notice the weeds in front of the library and any signs that are in disrepair. If they feel positive about these things they will be more inclined come in and see what is inside. Once they get there they should feel welcome and free to look around or ask questions. Tasteful, well-designed signs should direct them to important places in the library. The staff should be helpful and ready to answer questions.

Physical and emotional barriers can create a negative image and keep people from coming back. Do they have to climb a lot of stairs and turn sideways to get through a narrow door? Do visitors come face to face with a wall the second they step in the library? Or can they see all of the way to the far wall? Do they want to turn around and walk out?

Sometimes perception is more important than reality. A poorly kept lawn or parking lot with weeds growing in it may have no connection to the quality of materials or the service in the library, but many people form opinions about the library from what they see on the outside. A shabby inside could be just as damaging to the library's image. How people feel about the library makes a difference. If the answers to questions on the checklist suggest the need to fix something about your library's image, make the effort to do it. It won't hurt if you are going to ask for more money.

*James Swan, CKLS Administrator,
CKLS (Central Kansas Library System) POST,
July-August 2003*



Trustee Time

What Have We Learned?

By Dr. Norman J Jacknis, NYSALB president

As citizens of New York, as taxpayers and especially as library trustees, we have seen a tumultuous spring. For the first time in more than twenty years, the State Legislature overrode the Governor's veto of its previously passed budget. Such an action is very rare - there was another override in 1976 and then one hundred and three years before that.

As you may remember that after years of mere stagnation in supporting libraries, the Governor proposed this year to cut funding by 15%. Among other things, this would have had devastating effects on the library systems of which all of our individual libraries are part and to whom they turn for services that would otherwise be too costly for them to provide individually. The on-line services that have become so popular in our communities would have been severely curtailed.

As it turned out in May, the Senate voted unanimously to restore the funding for libraries in the State budget. In the Assembly, the vote was 115 yeas and 34 nays - more than enough to override the veto and assure the restoration of funds. Especially gratifying is that no other issue received more supportive votes than library aid restoration.

What had been a bleak picture for libraries earlier in the year turned out as well as it probably could have turned out in a year of the worst fiscal crisis in New York State since before World War II.

How did this minor miracle occur? What have we learned from it? First, libraries really are popular with the voters, which is something we have known from our experience and from the evidence of materials, like the Zogby poll.

Second, the library community can be politically effective when all of its elements - trustees, advocates, and professional librarians - work vigorously and together.

Third, trustees can make the crucial difference. The turnouts at and success of the various advocacy workshops around the State (which NYSALB co-sponsored) demonstrated support to legislators near their home districts. And let's not forget the rally and speeches in Albany, in which library trustees were involved.

Fourth, there are still legislators who either do not really believe in providing even basic financial support for libraries or who are so easily led by their leader that they would abandon their support for libraries or whose behavior cannot otherwise be fathomed. Fortunately, the members of the Assembly who voted against libraries is as short as it is

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inexplicable: Acampora, Bacalles, Barclay, Barraga, Brown, Burling, Butler, Calhoun, Conte, Crouch, Errigo, Ferrara, Finch, Fitzpatrick, Hayes, Hooker, Kolb, Labriola, McDonald, Mills, Mirones, Nesbitt, **Oaks**, Ortloff, Reilich, Sayward, Stephens, Stramere, Tedisco, Townsend, Warner, Winner, Wirth, and Young.

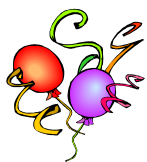
It is clear that under the right circumstances, the continual stream of "I love libraries" that we hear from legislators can actually be turned into positive bi-partisan action. But our work is not done.

The general question in Albany is how long the Legislature will be able to maintain its backbone. As the leaders of our library communities, we can do our part to shore up this historic demonstration of will power to support libraries.

I ask each of you to contact your State Senator to thank him or her for this support. If your member of the Assembly was also in the majority supporting libraries, please do the same for that house of the legislature. And, if your member of the Assembly is on the list of those who did not support libraries, it is important to make sure that person knows this action did not go unnoticed. These are simple and quick responses we can take now, which we hope will also help next year when the fiscal situation is not likely to be much better.

To discuss these and other concerns with your fellow trustees, sign up for NYSALB email discussion group by sending an email to join-nysalbgwww.watpa.org.

NYSALB newsletter, Summer 2003



Congratulations UPL!

The Ulysses Philomathic Library Board President was notified by the Executive Board of the Public Library Section of New York Library Association (NYLA) that their library has been selected to receive an Honorable Mention award for Outstanding Library Buildings. The Wells Memorial Library Association in Upper Jay was selected as the winner.

This award will be announced at the NYLA Conference, November 5-8, 2003, in Saratoga Springs.

Congratulations to everyone that helped make the Ulysses Philomathic Library a winner!



From The Desk of Library Committee Chair Assemblywoman Sandy Galef

We have started off our first year together with a major victory in the fight for state dollars. Working with libraries throughout the state, the bi-partisan budget of the Assembly and Senate restored all of the Governor's \$13.3 million cuts to libraries. This means that libraries throughout the state will receive a total of \$88.9 million for general library services.

You should know that this item received more votes from legislators than all of the 119 line item votes cast to override the Governor's vetoes and reinstate budget cuts. The proposed cuts would have been disastrous for our libraries because it would have resulted in the loss of matching federal dollars. If the cuts went through, we would also have lost 15% of the federal money for library funding, with the resulting cuts in grants to libraries, summer reading programs, and NOVEL.

You deserve the credit for our success. You have been good advocates, drumming and marching through the Legislative Office Building and onto the steps of the Capitol. It was exciting to see the strong rally by hundreds of library supporters that was the first of its kind. It made a big difference, as did your follow-up letters thanking legislators for restoring the \$13.3 million in library aid.

This is no time to be complacent because we may have another budget battle on our hands next year, if the economy does not rebound. It is so important that you develop a personal working relationship with your state legislators. I urge you to be constantly proactive by involving your legislative representatives in your library activities, asking them to read to kids in your summer reading programs, speak at events on site, and doing all that it takes to get legislators familiar with the important role that you play in your communities.

I have always had a special relationship with libraries, first as a second and third grade teacher in Virginia and New York, and later as a trustee of my local public library in Ossining. And now I am so proud to be the chair of the Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology and to work with a great support group. All of our efforts will hopefully have a positive impact on libraries and library services in the years to come.

NYSALB newsletter, Summer 2003

The following is recommendations taken from the **CKLS POST; May-June 2003**. Below is a sign (fill in your library name) that is recommended be posted in libraries to inform users. After that is a sample response to questions posed by patrons about the sign. These are just suggestions, not requirements, but I strongly encourage you to put some kind of signage up so patrons have a brief understanding of what is possible.

USA Patriot Act
A Warning From Your Library

Although the _____ Library makes every effort to protect your privacy, under the federal USA Patriot Act (Public Law 107-56), federal agents can obtain library records of circulated materials, interlibrary loans, database searches, computer use and reference interviews. That federal law prohibits library workers from informing you or anyone else if federal agents have obtained records about you.

When patrons ask about the sign say the USA Patriot Act overrides state and local laws protecting their privacy in using the library. FBI agents can obtain warrants with no evidence that a crime has been committed or that the search is for evidence of criminal activity and confiscate all library records and computers related to patrons' usage of the library. You canobtain a copy of "The USA Patriot Act in the Library" at www.ala.org/ala.org/oif/usapatriotlibrary.html

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Here's an idea...</i></p> <p>PAPERBACK EXCHANGE</p> <p>The Library Paperback Exchange is a fun, low cost way for all ages to pick up new-to-you paperbacks. Just come into the library lobby during exchange hours and you will see tables of paperbacks to trade for your paperbacks. The exchange rate is one-to-one, up to 30 paperbacks per person. It is a great Recycle and Read Program! @ Your Library, Newberg (OR) Public Library, March 2003</p> <p>SENIOR COFFEE CLUB</p> <p>The Beauregard Parish Library is offering a new program for seniors. The first Friday of each month, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., seniors are invited to the main branch of the library. "The Senior Coffee Club" for those 50 and older will meet for coffee, food, fun, door prizes and lots more. Each meeting will be advertised in the local newspaper. Themes of interest to seniors will be presented each month. For example, March's theme found area seniors taking a stroll down memory lane with the topic "Old High School Yearbooks." The seniors were urged to bring their yearbooks to share, compare the dress, hair styles, activities, who married whom, and so many more fun things of bygone days. Coffee was provided by Common Grounds, door prizes by Curious Cargo, Stage and other "friends of the library." Area merchants helped to make these senior programs a success. <i>Libraries Southwest (LA), Spring 2003</i></p>	<p>ONLINE BOOK CLUBS</p> <p>Cuyahoga County Public Library is among 500-plus libraries across the United States trying to hook the public on reading. The bait is the library's online book clubs from Chapter-A-Day. Weekdays, members receive an e-mail containing a portion of a book chapter. Why? To help them decide whether a new book or a new author is one they'll enjoy. Each day's e-mail takes no more than five minutes to read. Once you decide you like a book, you can borrow it from the library and finish the story. Businesswoman Suzanne Beecher started Chapter -A-Day, which now offers 10 clubs: the Original, featuring a variety of fiction and nonfiction; Fiction; Business; Audio; Teen; Good News; Romance; Mystery; Horror/ Science fiction; and Pre-Pub, a chance to preview books before they're published. Visitors to the library's Web site <www.cuyahogalibrary.org> can join one or more book clubs at no charge, courtesy of Cuyahoga County Public Library. Use the library's Internet computers to receive your e-mail and read your chapter each day, or use your home computer. <i>Inside Page, Cuyahoga County (OH) Public Library, April 2003</i></p>
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Dianne (l.) & new Cortland Director Kay, checking out at the circulation desk.

Carol, from the Cady Library in Nichols, is sharing the stairs with, Mr. Cady, the previous owner of the beautiful building the library is housed in.



Jessica & Sandy proudly showing off their newly painted picture book display in the Cortland Library

Diana-Marisa
Library
Photo Tour
Summer 2003



Mickey seen in the spotlight with Stacey (l.) and Anne in the Children's room at the Waterloo Library.

FLLS 2003 Calendar

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---|
| November | 5-8
13
20
27-28 | NYLA Conference: Saratoga Springs.
DAC meeting, 10:00 am.
FALCON meeting, 9:00 am.
Thanksgiving Holiday — System Closed. |
| December | 3
4
25-26 | FLLS Board of Trustees meeting — 5:30 pm.
System Meeting—State Annual Reports ☺
Christmas Holiday — System Closed. |
| January | 1-2
22 | New Year Holiday—System Closed.
System Meeting—New Formats |

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Copies of this newsletter are available in large print for visually-impaired readers. Contact our Outreach Department for further information.

Finger Lakes Library System home page: <http://www.flls.org/>

FLLS NEWS

Finger Lakes Library System
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