

# FLLS NEWS

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WINTER 2006/2007

Karen Creenan, Executive Director

## 'TIS THE SEASON!

The New York State Budget season that is. It is time for the Governor and the Legislature to develop a new budget for 2007 and it is time for the library community to make our case for increased funding in that budget. Our new Governor, Eliot Spitzer, specifically mentioned libraries in his Inaugural Speech, and addressed several initiatives for which libraries can play an important role including: a focus on children from birth to five years old; affordable, high speed broadband Internet access for all; and workforce and economic development. This is a hopeful sign. Now, however, we must convince Governor Spitzer and the Legislature to provide the increased funding necessary for libraries to effectively assist with these and other important state initiatives.

Library advocates need to contact the governor and our local elected state representatives and remind them that:

- *Libraries are key to citizens having access to current and accurate information necessary to make sound personal and community decisions.*
- *Libraries are crucial to the education of all ages starting with babies and continuing through our senior population.*
- *Libraries address the digital divide by providing Internet access for all*
- *Libraries contribute to the economy and workforce development through all of the above.*

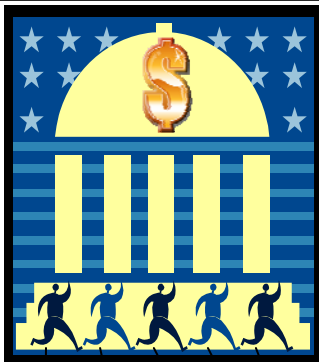
**AND**

**Libraries need increased state funding in order to continue to do all these things well.**

Deliver your message urging an increase in New York State Aid to libraries by

- ✓ letter,
- ✓ e-mail,
- ✓ phone,
- ✓ personal visit to local office
- ✓ attend NYLA's annual Legislative Day in Albany on March 13, 2007
- ✓ ALL of the above!

FLLS will provide current contact information for state representatives and information about NYLA Legislative Day soon.



Cortland  
Cayuga Seneca Tioga  
Tompkins

**NYLA  
Legislative Day  
March 13th  
in Albany...  
be there!**

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**2007 NYSALB  
Trustee Institute**

*Save the Dates*  
**Friday, May 4th & Saturday, May 5th 2007**  
**at the**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel, Queens, NY**

Program topics to be included this year:

- \* Roles, Responsibilities, and Duties of Public Library Trustees
- \* Competing Visions for the Future of the book
- \* New Library Construction or Renovation of Existing Space

Highlights include:

- \* Educational Sessions for Trustees & Directors
- \* Invitation extended to New York City's Mayor Bloomberg to speak
- \* Tour of the Queens Public Library
- \* Presentation of the prestigious Velma Moore Award
- \* Friday Evening Dinner
- \* Boat ride on the NY Harbor (around Liberty Island)
- \* Trip to any one of the many Museums all located in 5 miles or less
- \* New York Botanical Gardens
- \* Plans for group tickets to a Mets or Yankees Baseball Game
- \* Opportunity to attend a Broadway Show & access to Manhattan shopping
- \* Incredible room rate in NYC...if you register soon enough. \$129 plus taxes per night, reservations must be made by March 31, 2007. After this date the regular room rate of \$399 will be charged.
- \* At anytime, you may call for hotel reservations at (800) 692-5424. Please indicate that you are with the NYSALB group. Complimentary shuttle to and from LGA airport and for those driving, discounted parking of \$5 per day.

Check your NYSALB Newsletter or the NYSALB website for more information. [www.nysalb.org](http://www.nysalb.org)

**BOOKS FIND NEW LIFE**

Some of the books donated to Decatur Public Library's book sales may have outlived their usefulness as reading material, but they have found new life as decorative gift items sold to honor loved ones.

Recently, The Friends of the Decatur Public Library (FOL) sent 16 boxes of books, more than 500 total, to Books of Love, Inc. ([www.booksoflove.com](http://www.booksoflove.com)), a company based in Davenport, FL. The company recycles the old volumes by turning them into laminated, open "books" of poetry and heartfelt messages that will endure as cherished gifts for years to come.

FOL received 50 cents for each book accepted and the company paid for the shipping expenses. "This company takes books that are hard to sell," says Barbara Redford, FOL's past president. "It's very hard to get rid of Reader's Digest condensed books, for example." Redford was president of the board last fall when Books of Love was first approached about accepting the DPL's books. Some of the books were also given to Decatur long-term care facilities.

*Connections, Decatur (IL) Public Library, July 2006*

**Are you a Library Trustee interested  
in conversing with other Trustees  
about library concerns?**

FLLS is starting a Trustee listserv, for trustees only. This will give trustees a forum to discuss issues surrounding libraries, such as funding, building issues, personnel, and policies, with other library trustees. We hope to set up and begin the listserv by late February.

If you are a trustee in the Finger Lakes Library System,  
and are interested in joining our new trustee listserv,  
please contact:  
Marisa Iacobucci - [marisa@flls.org](mailto:marisa@flls.org).

## OUTREACH GAMES AFOOT!

Melanie Hemingway, Outreach Consultant

On **June 23, 2007**, 3-5 p.m., Washington Convention Center, D.C., the American Library Association's **Diversity and Outreach Fair** will focus on innovative services to underserved communities.

Over the years the fair has highlighted diversity-in-action initiatives from library outreach programs across the country. It encourages librarians addressing diversity programs, activities and services in local libraries to share their resources with others.

Additional information about the 2007 Diversity and Outreach Fair is available at [www.ala.org/divfair](http://www.ala.org/divfair). Questions may be directed to Tanga Morris at (800) 545-2433, ext. 4294, ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, or by e-mail to [divfair@ala.org](mailto:divfair@ala.org).

###

Revolutionizing library service to older adults, the **Old Bridge Public Library in New Jersey** has embarked on a 12-month "journey" to develop a little-used portion of the Library and turn it into a "Senior Space."

They will be developing programs and services for three generations of older adults—baby boomers not yet retired, older adults retired in the last few years, and the elderly who can no longer get to the library.

The project will be well documented through [www.seniorspaces.blogspot.com](http://www.seniorspaces.blogspot.com). For further information, contact Assistant Library Director Allan M. Kleiman at 732-721-5600, ext. 5042 or [akleiman@lmxac.org](mailto:akleiman@lmxac.org). Or check his other blog: [www.libraryolderadults.blogspot.com](http://www.libraryolderadults.blogspot.com).

###

Tompkins County Mental Health Department's **Older Adult Focus Group** is applying for a GATEKEEPER grant from the NYS Office of Mental Health. The grant will allow them to train people who work in various agencies, including libraries, to recognize when older adults may be in distress and which agencies to call for assistance. --Watch for training opportunities!

###

On **May 4, 2007**, FLLS Coordinated Outreach Services Advisory Council (COSAC) & Friends will be having an **Outreach Celebration!** We will be networking with local agencies over lunch. -- If you are interested in joining us, let me know, as this luncheon will be by individual invitations. We plan to have another similar gathering in the Fall in another of our counties.

###

Do you have **Outreach news** you would like to share? Tell me about it: [melanieh@flls.org](mailto:melanieh@flls.org); I would like to share your news and outreach activities in a seasonal news flyer. Let's keep the inspiration coming!

## Adult Services

Marisa Iacobucci, Adult Services Coordinator

Happy New Year Everyone! As I write this (1/16) it is snowing for the first time this year, and this winter. It's about time! The snowdrops that have come up – and the buds on the trees – are very confused.

I just wanted to mention some of the things happening this year at FLLS:

We have sent in our application for the LSTA Invitational Grant that all library systems in NYS are eligible for. The grant will support a series of workshops on serving the 50+ population (baby boomers) in your communities. They will be informative and inspiring – I hope you can make them. For more information on this, go to page 9 of this newsletter.

Annette and I are generating a list of Playaways which we will order. Playaway is the self-contained audio equivalent of a book. We will be sending you information in the next month to see if you're interested in receiving a collection. For more information on Playaways, go to page 8 of the newsletter. Also check out <http://www.findawayworld.com>.

You will soon be receiving a survey regarding downloadable media. We would like to get a sense of your interest in downloadables as well as what's happening with the audio-visual materials in your library.

In May, there will be an all-day workshop on surveys. A speaker from TC3 will discuss generating surveys and distributing them, and will show how to use Survey Monkey – online survey software that is free to use (with limits).

I will be initiating and facilitating a trustee listserv beginning in 2007. This listserv will be for trustees only and will be used to discuss trustee/library issues. For more information, see page 2 of the newsletter.

And much, much more! I just wanted to highlight a few things. I look forward to seeing you all at the continuing education offerings coming up this year!

## Reference/Interlibrary Loan

Linda Beins, Coordinator



### Information 24/7



Are you looking for a long-lost classmate? searching for a new job? researching a company? seeking a medical specialist?

**ReferenceUSA**, a database of millions of U.S. businesses, healthcare providers, and households, as well as Canadian businesses and households may be your answer. The "Quick Search" feature allows you to search by a person or company name, address, phone number or city, state. "Custom Search" let's you tailor your search more precisely. So the next time you want to know how many plastic surgeons actually practice in the zip code 90210 – use ReferenceUSA.



For your research needs, we recently upgraded from MasterFILE Select to EBSCO'S **MasterFILE Premier**. This database includes full text articles and chapters from more than 1,700 periodicals and 500 reference books covering general reference, business, health, education, geopolitical, general science and more. Search MasterFile Premier whether you are looking for an authoritative history of the crisis in Darfur, the effect of roller coasters on heart rate, or some other reference question.



All FLLS member library patrons are now able to study one of thirty languages, from Arabic to Welsh with Greek, Japanese, and Russian in between, through this interactive language immersion database. You can opt to learn to read, speak, and/or write a new language. It's also an excellent program for patrons who want to learn English.

All of these databases and others can now be accessed from any FLLS Catalog search screen with a valid library card from any FLLS member library. Click on the **Magazines and Online Database** tab and select a database from an alphabetical listing of all the databases or choose a subject category. Contact Linda Beins, [lbeins@flls.org](mailto:lbeins@flls.org) for additional information about databases offered through FLLS.

## Database Training

What is a remedy for frostwort?  
Where would you find an obituary for Hunter S. Thompson?

Member Library staff who attended two Fall trainings to gain new skills in using the various Health and Newspaper databases offered through FLLS and NYS NOVEL know the answers. Jen Schlossberg, a TCPL Reference Librarian, developed and led each of these workshops, funded by the Gates Staying Connected Phase Two Grant Program, at five regional locations. Early results indicate that post-training use of the databases **Health & Wellness Resource Center** and **Health Reference Center - Academic** databases have increased 59% compared to 2005. Similarly, usage of the databases **Custom Newspapers**, **NYS Newspapers**, **National Newspaper Index**, and **TOPICsearch** increased 77%. Contact Linda Beins, [lbeins@flls.org](mailto:lbeins@flls.org), for copies of the brochures developed by Jen Schlossberg for these sessions.

## PHASE-OUT OF BCPL VIDEO COLLECTIONS...

Over the past three years, BCPL has had increasing difficulty in purchasing videos from vendors due to the industry-wide reduction in video production. Because of difficulty in purchasing materials in VHS format, we have not purchased nonfiction or feature videos for our adult collections since August 2005. In January 2006, adult feature video collections were removed from all branches. At that time, the decision was made that nonfiction videos would remain in the collection while we continued to build our nonfiction DVD collection.

The juvenile video collections were maintained at that point because they were much more readily available than adult video. However, Collection Development has seen changes in the availability of videos for juveniles over the past six months. Many new titles are being published in DVD format exclusively. For example, re-released Disney feature films and new children's titles like Curious George and Cars are being released exclusively in DVD format. Orders for the remaining titles available in video format are becoming increasingly difficult to fill.

While some customers continue to use the juvenile video collection, it has declined in both size and circulation over the past year. Therefore, because of the decrease in availability for purchase and decline in circulation of the juvenile video collection, we find that we are unable to continue to sustain the juvenile video collections in the future.

*from a memo, Baltimore County (MD) Public Library,  
October 2006*

## Member News:

### Apalachin Reading Center

Our library has been a very busy and active place this winter. Our programs continue to be well attended both for adults and children.

For adults we continue to have two book clubs meeting each month. We have a mystery readers club and what we call "Books Du Jour" which is a group of women that read about and discuss women's interests. Other programs for adults have been "show and tell" programs for crafters. People bring in their work to share with others. So far we have featured quilts, cross stitch and in January yarn crafts. These sessions have been very popular and have generated interest in a group meeting do work on their projects together in the library on an ongoing basis.

Our Story time program is growing. We have story time on two mornings each week to accommodate everybody. This fall we had local author Karen Haines come to read the new book *Georgie the Flying Dog* and to our story hour time. We also had a visit by the local fire department with a fire truck for everyone to see.

Our board is currently investigating obtaining a charter for our reading center. We are still in the initial stages. We are working hard and know that it is a long process but feel that we should be a "real" library.

### Seymour Public Library District, Auburn

The Board of Trustees of Seymour Library is pleased to announce that Sheila B. Anderson has been named library director. She replaces Stephen Erskine, who has been Seymour's director for 36 years.

Ms. Anderson has worked as director of the Dover Public Library in Delaware since August 2001. She is the author and editor of several books on library services to teenagers and pre-teens and is a frequent contributor to professional journals.

Ms. Anderson earned her master's degree in library science from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, where she is currently an adjunct instructor. She has presented workshops at a variety of professional conferences and is currently a member of the American Library Association's Children's Book Council Joint Committee and the Delaware Council on Libraries. She is a former councilor-at-large for the American Library Association. Her web site is [www.sheilabanderson.com](http://www.sheilabanderson.com)

### Aurora Free Library

The library held its two final NYSCA Decentralization Programs in November and December. The Storycrafters came in November and performed

"Catch the World by the Tale" entertaining all with stories from around the world accompanied by interesting instruments. The Traveling Lantern Theatre Company performed "A Christmas Carol" in December. We were fortunate to once again receive funding for 4 programs in 2007.

In October, the Board of Trustees recognized Sandra Groth for her ten years of service to the library. The library's 12 Days of Christmas Fundraiser and a book sale at Christmas in Aurora along with our annual appeal did very well. Santa, ornament making, and a concert by the Aurora Children's Choir rounded out the Christmas in Aurora festivities.

The book club read "Blessings", "The Color Purple", "Night", and "Benjamin Franklin" this fall. In September a non-fiction book club was established. "Team of Rivals", "A Midwife's Tale" and "Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq" were read this fall.

The library continues to fundraise for its "Raise the Roof Campaign" which will repair the roof and steps and provide stage lighting. We received a check in October from Senator Nozzolio and Assemblyman Finch for \$85,000 to help with this project. Work on the roof will begin this year.

### Lang Memorial Library, Cato

The new year has brought several changes to the Lang Memorial Library. After thirty years of service on the board of trustees, Dorothy Southard has retired. Besides holding the position of treasurer for most of those years, Dorothy's extensive knowledge of local history was especially helpful in answering genealogy questions. We will miss Dorothy's lively wit and wisdom and wish her many happy retirement years.

Pam Cox replaced Dorothy, the granddaughter of former librarian Florence Streeter. Florence was the librarian of the Cato Free Library for over thirty-five years. Pam brings an extensive knowledge of the community and exceptional communication skills to the board. We all look forward to working with her in the coming years.

To attract more teens to the library, the Lang Library is developing a Teen Advisory Board (TAB). Participants will help in selecting materials, planning programs, and creating displays. They will hold the first TAB meeting in February.

Unfortunately, the unsightly landscape left in front of the library by the local road construction crew did not change. State DOT representatives assured us that their work would be completed this spring. Undeterred, children participated in a "Bulbs for Books" program.

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Children earned daffodil bulbs for each book read, and then joined their friends for a special planting day. As a result, they planted almost 1,000 bulbs along the main street in Cato this fall. New landscape and hundreds of bright yellow flowers this spring, now that is a change we are really looking forward to this spring.

**Southworth Library, Dryden**

In December, the Southworth Library celebrated that terrific pig Wilbur and his friends with read-alouds of *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White, weekly worksheets, and a visit from a real live piglet! We also had a Hoedown where children made spiders and piggy banks and ate 'slops.' The library and staff are very thankful to Regal Movie Theaters for all the prizes, promotional materials, and popcorn they donated.

In 2007, the Southworth Library will be looking forward to many new opportunities in grants and grant funded programming. This year's CAP grant will help us bring in local artists and artisans to demonstrate their skill and handicrafts to the community. We will also be pursuing grants to help preserve some of our own historical artifacts. The library has also greatly benefited by a new volunteer coordinator for 2007. New enthusiasm and new opportunities in the New Year!

**Peck Memorial Library, Marathon**

Peck Memorial Library hosted an Open House for the town of Marathon by having the Awesome Appleby Singers (elementary school chorus) sing carols on the Green and then come to the library for refreshments. This open house is hosted by the board of trustees and is enjoyed by many of the town people. This is a time where community people can see our library, ask questions and visit with neighbors. We all enjoy this annual event.

The Friends of the Library held a "Hanging of the Greens" party at the end of November so we were very ready for the Open House. The friends have taken a very active part in helping us with book sales, programs and have offered to help supplement a grant that we needed for the Libri Foundation.

The Friends of Tompkins County and the Cortland Rotary gave us donations with which we were able to buy a Whopping Whalopolooza package from Full Cast Audio. Before they gave us these generous donations, we did not have any books on CD or books on cassette for the juveniles. So we very much appreciate their generosity!

Another blessing that we had was that Eagle Scout, Dan Stanton needed a project. I asked him if he could make a DVD/video case similar to the one that we had hand made for our library. Our white case had fallen apart and was warped. This past week Dan brought the video case to the library and it is of excellent quality. He did such a great job and we are so very proud of him for offering his services to the library.

We have 2 volunteers who are helping weekly at the circulation desk, Barb Elwyn and Dawn Luba. This enables me to tackle the never ending paperwork.

As you can see the volunteers of Marathon offer so much to our library and we so appreciate each and every one of them. They truly are what keeps us running.

**Powers Library, Moravia**

Although the dream of a white Christmas did not materialize in Moravia this year, Santa Claus made his annual visit to the Library just the same, arriving atop a fire engine instead of his snow-dependent sleigh. The Children's area was packed with tots and parents, who listened happily for an hour while Santa read stories aloud, posed for photos, and held brave little boys and girls on his lap to discuss Christmas secrets. It was a merry start to the month of December at the Library!

Since Powers Library was incorporated as an *association* library, we are looking to expand membership in the Library Association during 2007. Along with paying a modest joining fee, members of the Association support the mission of the Library by serving as good-will ambassadors, talking up the Library's importance in the community. Association members are also entitled to run for office and vote on matters pertaining to library policy. We are hopeful that increased membership in the Association will translate to increased awareness and support of the Library's mission throughout the service area.

With the cost of doing business ever on the increase, the Library gratefully acknowledges the individual donations, foundation grants, and memorial remembrances made during our autumn fund-raising drive. An historic building, even one with an award-winning addition, requires constant upkeep and repair. Thanks to a local grant, custom-fitted storm windows are now in place over the original, drafty glass panes, and we can dare Old Man Winter to blow his frosty breath in our direction. But where is he?

**Tappan-Spaulling Memorial Library, Newark Valley**

We held an Open House on December 16<sup>th</sup> and had between 200 and 300 people drop-in. Some of them were patrons and many were not. With the influx of people to our area from Lockheed Martin many have not had a chance to come into the library yet. They all

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seemed to come in that night. We had stories for children being read for almost four hours straight. About 150 children attended these readings.

Soon we should be getting our new copier/fax machine. Our old fax has not worked reliably for some time now. It is funny when something is not working everyone wants to use it. When it is working fine no one wants to use it.

We are raffling off a quilt made by two of our loyal patrons, Lorraine Grant and Laura Taylor. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

We have gotten some new shelving to help with our space problems.

We are receiving a grant for architectural drawings for handicap accessibility. This is the first step I am told in a long process if it is even possible.

We had a bookmark/Christmas ornament contest at the holiday time. We received over 20 entrees. The kids all did such a great job; we had a hard time picking the winners.

We started an author of the month display in September and have had a great response from the public. Some people had never heard of the author that we picked and some did not know that the author had written as many books as they had. I am going to try to start one for children as well to introduce some new and old authors.

**Newfield Public Library**

The winter months are busy here at the Newfield Public Library. Our public access computers continue to grow in popularity with more people using them all the time. In addition to the computers, books are also popular with young and old alike. The pre-k classes from Newfield Elementary School come to the library once a month for story times. This is a great way to introduce these young children to the public library, and former library trustee Florence Emery and I thoroughly enjoy reading to these classes.

Our library board is seeing some changes for 2007. Glenn Caslick completed his term in December 2006. Our new trustee will be Sherry Atherton. We will miss Glenn and all his hard work for the library, but are looking forward to working with Sherry. Board President Tina Winstead will continue as a library trustee throughout 2007, but the office of president will be filled by board member Mike Allinger. We appreciate the time and effort that our board members, and all volunteers, devote to making the library a vibrant part of our community.

**Ford Memorial Library, Ovid**

In December we finally had our talk with mechanical author/lecturer Gary Xavier. He related stories of growing up in Ovid in the 1960's. Gary is known for his humorous columns in the Finger Lakes Times. This story was very humorous and hit a chord with all of our locals.

January 16 is the night of our Annual Meeting. We will be discussing year end business and Ron Barrows will be on hand to discuss the Construction Grant and our Capital Campaign. Local patrons, Friends of the Library, come to hear about the yearly events and how they transpired. Wine and cheese and cookies and punch are available after the meeting.

Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, along with Lodi and Interlaken libraries, the Lodi, Interlaken, and Ovid Historical Societies, and the Lodi Fire Department are sponsoring a 2007 Library Expo at the Lodi Fire Hall, Feb. 10 from 9a.m. to 3p.m. Hands-on workshops in scrap booking, cake decorating, knitting and crocheting and more will be available. There will be other opportunities such as vision screening for children by the local Lions club, Sheriff Department photo I.D.s of children, and drawings for door prizes. There will be many displays like alternative energy, animal tracking, blacksmithing and welding. Come learn with us!

Several trustees will be taking workshops in Grant Writing which will help the library in its new Capital Campaign.

**Hazard Library, Poplar Ridge**

Hazard Library had a great 2006. In addition to our ongoing programs of Story Hour, Summer Programs and Summer Reading, the Annual Book Sale and the Book Club, we sponsored our first annual Community Read.

In 2006 our Board started the planning for library expansion. There are now survey stakes marking our outside space. An architect has developed and modified drawings of a "new" library building. (These preliminary drawings help to preserve the integrity of our building which dates back to the late 1800's.) A consulting firm conducted a community feasibility study. The good news...library expansion would be supported by our community! The Board plans to build on the work that has been done.

2007 is going to be a busy one for all of us at the library. We look forward to the many new challenges and to continuing our mission to provide free library services to our community.

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We want to join the other libraries in Cayuga County in welcoming the new director of Seymour Library: Sheila Anderson. She'll be assuming her duties there as of Feb. 5th after tying up some loose ends at her previous employment at Dover (Del) Public Library. We look forward to continued close ties through the Cayuga Connect system.

**Springport Free Library, Union Springs**

The Library has enjoyed a peaceful and snow free winter season. We have watched as communities around us have received measurable amounts of snow. Yet here by the lake, we have received scant traces. This, of course has meant no shoveling of the library walkway. With no piles of snow to get around, the library has seen some brisk business. One day I noticed seven skate boards piled in the library entrance hallway. I found that to be a strange sight in December!

As usual the community was generous with their Christmas donations to us. We have actually received a large donation, along with the request that it be used to purchase books on MP3 players. This has us thinking in new directions about collection development. I have purchased an MP3 player, and I'm just waiting to grab a computer savvy teen to show me exactly what's going on in this new world. I find it exciting to see large amounts of information being stored in such portable devices. All I can think of is shelving. Think of the smaller amounts of shelving space needed. Very exciting.

Our handicapped accessible lift is finally finished off. And yes, to the question of, are these lifts actually used. We keep five keys to the lift, and have given two keys to patrons who use the lift weekly. One of our patrons broke an ankle, and used the lift for the six weeks she was in a cast. It was great to see the years of planning finally showing the need. We continue to plan to make improvements to, an older, historical building, allowing more accessibility and room for community programming.

We had a nice Christmas program for our children. Around fifteen kids piled in to the library to make ornaments, and enjoy cookies and punch. Parents provided the cookies, and a lot of time and care went into the homemade baked goods. This program began to make us start thinking about the summer reading program. I don't plan to loose track of the volunteer bakers!

Library Assistant Tammy Cooper will be moving to Baltimore. Her husband found a new job down there. The first thing Tammy did, was check into the libraries, and then rented a house based on availability of library services. It's a career that's in the blood. She sends her regards to everyone at the FLLS. We wish her, and her family well! We hope everyone at all the libraries has a very Happy New Year!

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**PLAYAWAY<sup>®</sup>**  
 READY-TO-GO AUDIO

**are coming**

**What is a Playaway?**

- Not an MP3 or CD player and not software, Playaway is the self-contained audio equivalent of a book.
- Half the size of a deck of cards, Playaway is packaged with a standard AAA battery to allow for immediate listening.
- Using clearly marked buttons, Playaway gives listeners the option of placing digital bookmarks and controlling the speed of a narrator's voice, all while easily moving both forward and back through audio book selections that can range from six to twenty-four hours.
- Additionally, Playaway has a universal headphone jack that works with almost any type of headphone or mobility accessory.

**Member Libraries will be receiving more information in February!**

To learn more about Playaways, go to:  
[www.playawaydigital.com](http://www.playawaydigital.com).



## LSTA—Making Connections: Libraries Serving the 50+ Population in their Community

Marisa Iacobucci, Adult Services Coordinator

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2005 American Community Survey, 25% of the population in Cayuga County is over 55. Of the grandparents who are living in a household with one or more grandchildren under 18 years, 33.6% are responsible for those grandchildren. Similar figures exist for the other four counties that the Finger Lakes Library System, and its member libraries, serves. The baby boomers are reaching retirement age and unlike many older adults of the past, they are ready to move on to something else; another job, another career, volunteering, teaching.

Finger Lakes Library System will be receiving a **LSTA Invitational Grant** that will support three workshops designed to assist member libraries to better address the needs of these active older adults, by providing training:

- that informs and encourages new ways of serving the active older adults with emphasis on opportunities for civic engagement and lifelong learning which are the cornerstones of Lifelong Access Libraries\* (see below) approach to library services for baby boomers and active older adults.
- that offers suggestions at how to establish partnerships with other community agencies that serve this population.
- that highlights the skills and passions of an active, healthier older population to inspire new ideas in library service.

\*Lifelong Access is a model for working with active older adults that emphasizes learning, social connections, life planning, and community engagement. Lifelong Access is informed by recent research documenting older adults' interests in education, flexible work, and service that makes a difference.

Lifelong Access reflects the *EqualAccess* philosophy of community collaboration, use of technology, and outreach. Library staff develops partnerships with community colleges, senior centers, health organizations, workforce agencies, and volunteer centers in order to maximize community resources. Together, these community coalitions work to:

- Coordinate programs and services
- Engage older adults in the design and delivery of services
- Share resources and expertise to provide life planning counseling and opportunities for lifelong learning
- Provide options for meaningful work and service
- Provide assistance with resource navigation
- Develop community spaces that foster connections across generations and cultural groups.

Libraries are natural partners for productive aging, as more and more communities are discovering. The three planned workshops are listed, with descriptions, below. Member library directors and trustees will be receiving more information about the workshop and how to register in the next month. I hope you can make it!

### April 19, 2007 – Workshop on Lifelong Access Libraries

This workshop will be facilitated by Americans for Libraries Council's national Lifelong Access Libraries (see <http://www.lifelonglibraries.org>) Initiative staff and will include compelling presentations by several of its Fellows - librarians who have received in-depth training and are currently

implementing exciting and innovative Lifelong Access Library programs in their own libraries.

The first half of the workshop will include an introductory overview of Lifelong Access and will discuss today's aging issues and trends. A panel of practitioners will then provide examples of specific programs for active, older adults that they are developing or implementing at their libraries. Examples of core components are civic engagement opportunities, community conversations, intergenerational programming, creativity and aging, health information and healthy lifestyle promotion, space planning for social connections, and peer advisory councils.

The second half of the workshop will provide a more in-depth look at one of the Lifelong Access core component. Someone in aging work (not from libraries) will present on one of the core components from their perspective. For example, someone from Elders Share the Arts, a New York based organization that provides opportunities for older people to engage in creative arts experiences. This organization's work forms part of the background for the research that Dr. Gene Cohen has pioneered at the Center on Aging Health and Humanities pointing to the vital relationship between creative engagement and healthy aging.

The day will close with the 'World Café' (see <http://www.theworldcafe.com>), a conversational technique in which member librarians and agency staff members will discuss next steps using what they have learned and potential collaborations.

### May 10, 2007 – Intergenerational Workshop

For this workshop, we propose to invite a professional from one of the major organizations working on intergenerational/multigenerational programming, a core component of Lifelong Access. The leading organizations that are experimenting with intergenerational activities to maximize the civic engagement of older adults are: The Center for Intergenerational Learning at Temple University and Generations United. This half-day session will address intergenerational programming in greater depth and more thoroughly than when it is discussed as part of the April panel.

### September 27, 2007 – Workshop for Member Librarians and Agency staff with Mary Catherine Bateson Presenter.

Mary Catherine Bateson, nationally known writer and cultural anthropologist (see <http://www.marycatherinebateson.com>), will speak to member library directors, staff and trustees, as well as staff from agencies serving older adults who attend.

Mary Catherine Bateson talks of 'active wisdom' in relation to older adults: "Wisdom is the most positive and acceptable trait of people that live long lives. The challenge is to stimulate imaginations to combine that wisdom with activity and social engagement to make it effective in one's life and in the world."

Ms. Bateson's ideas surrounding 'active wisdom' in older adults tie in directly with the Lifelong Access and the idea of viewing contemporary active older adults in a different light. We combine Ms. Bateson's presentation with an in-the field presenter who will demonstrate and offer techniques on how to use the 'active wisdom' community conversation model within a library setting for the benefit of the community it serves.

If you have questions, please contact me at [marisa@flls.org](mailto:marisa@flls.org) or 273-4074, ext. 26.

(continued from Member News, page8)

**Port Byron Library**

The Port Byron Library continues to enjoy the largess of members of our community who want to share with others! For instance, we'll need to have another cabin fever book sale soon as we've received yet more volumes that don't fit into our collection. Also, a recent death in our "family" has resulted in donations of over \$2500; we'll be using that for more book shelves and other furnishings.

Our local BOCES has also demonstrated an ability to work with us as this year they've placed a special-needs student in our building (along with his job coach) twice a week instead of just once. We try to find a variety of job-readiness activities for him each day.

In addition, there have been other changes in the use of buildings in our village so we now have a "Canal Gals" Home Bureau group meeting in our community room every other week. This type of outreach helps bring new faces to our circulation desk!

Our book club has had another interesting meeting. This time the author of *The Loveling* came to visit. Before her arrival, we staged an impressive setting relating to the book. It included an old-fashioned dress, a treasure chest and an aura of intrigue.

For Halloween our small, but active, Friends group put on a costume party for the youngsters. We had children from pre-school through the middle grades; after playing games, they were awarded prizes, including tickets to a free movie night that is planned for the future.

We have been struggling to get our Tuesday morning story time off the ground for area pre-schoolers. With a slight change in the time and some additional publicity, we think it's going to be a success. The children who have attended, so far, have enjoyed our recently retired teacher as she has a lot of patience with the little ones.

Beginning in February our Traveling Library staff will be presenting a Detective Club once a month right at the library! It should help us lead up to the summer reading program.

**Waterloo Library & Historical Society**

We are pleased to announce that our roof project is complete. The slate, terra cotta, decorative iron pieces and bronze flashing and gutters are all in place. Just in time, too, as the weather seems to be turning wintry. I can't begin to explain the transformation the building has undergone. It is wonderful to see the finished project after many months of hard work.

The Waterloo Library has also done some work on the inside. We have completed an inventory of our adult fiction books. Once we were used to the Inventory Manager and after some minor set-backs we were up and running.

Now it's on to the Annual Report! The life of a librarian is never dull!

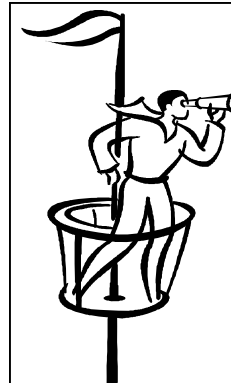
**Waverly Free Library**

The New Year started off well with our First Sunday program. The library subscribes to Ancestry.com paid for with money from OSRAM Sylvania. They donated to the library because one of their employees puts in many volunteer hours. The program outlined how to use the database.

Upcoming programs include a talk by a couple who were invited to Saudi Arabia and their experiences there; Ukrainian egg decorating demonstration; and a talk by a local ham radio operator. A special program in February will feature Iditarod veteran Pam Flowers who will talk about her experiences.

The library will also sponsor a workshop on Estate Planning for senior citizens. Funding for this program was provided by the Tioga County Senior Citizens Foundation.

A new collection of Foreign Film DVDs has been added to the library as a memorial to a volunteer, Jane Klinko.

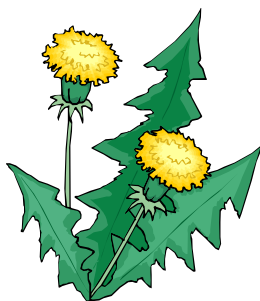


**Be on the look-out...**

Developmental Grants will be available in 2007. Information coming soon to your library!

## It's Like Pulling Weeds...

**Guidelines for getting your stacks back in shape**  
by Barb Chase



Dearest Reference Staff:

I believe that our guidelines for weeding ought to reflect actual library usage, needs, and societal trends, and have therefore updated our guidelines, taking into account the following factors: 1) Shelf space, or lack thereof. 2) If the item is pulled, will it cause merely a minor uproar or a full-scale uprising? 3) Is the book too big? Too heavy? Too tasteless (or tasteful)? Does the color clash with nearby books? 4) If it's a magazine, does it have the all-important word "country" in the title? 5) Is it sticky? No, seriously.

Some guidelines, by the numbers:

### 000 General

Too general. Dump 'em, send out for reclassification, or put in rotating collection where we'll never see them again. The collection will therefore now begin at 100.

### 100 Philosophy

Occult: These seem to be self-weeding, so we needn't concern ourselves.

Self-help books: Ditch the self-help for men-they never read them. Ancient philosophy: Keep all the good-looking books because the bindings and nice lettering help our library to look classy. Modern philosophy: Sorry, you're on your own to prioritize the philosophies behind Lord of the Rings, pro wrestling, and fantasy football.

### 200 Religion

Religion and spirituality are strictly matters of the heart and mind, so that should free up lots of shelf space.

### 300 Social Sciences

Here we have lots of trouble with constantly changing social mores. Does anyone read political theory? Where are we on feminism, nuclear power, Protestant power, gay power, or Amish power? A couple of other tips: Dump the stock-market books because the market moves too fast to read them, and refer economic theory folks to Deal or No Deal and the scratch-and-win cards in the lobby.

### 400 Language

Keep the easy languages, unload the hard ones. Also, let's find some slang dictionaries to help us decipher after-schoolers' chat and e-mail abbreviations.

### 500 Natural Sciences

Entomology: Weed'em. They just encourage folks to bring in their yucky bugs for identification. Extinct species: Dump'em, because, hey man, those animals and plants are *gone*.

### 600 Applied Science and Technology

Nutrition: Protein-only and carbohydrate-only diets are fighting it out in the media, so let's stock the fats-only diet books until all that gets settled. Pet books: According to Taco Bell ads and Paris Hilton trends, small yappy dogs are in and big dogs are out, so weed accordingly. Cooking: If you find any drink-mixing books, keep them behind the desk where we can put them to good use. Gardening: Keep the perennial books, dump the annuals. They just don't last. Do-it-yourself: *Idiot's Guides* first, *Dummies* second, and after that a collection of local business cards. All other misleading do-it-yourself books can be pitched in the interests of accuracy and patron frustration levels.

### 700 Arts

Weed all art and photo books that are oversized or full-color, as those items do not photocopy well. Sports: For basketball, weed according to player styles-if they are wearing short-shorts, it's an old book; if they are sporting tattoos and streaked hair, it's a new book. Also, baby boomers are aging rapidly, so we need to stock up on our croquet and backgammon books ASAP.

### 800 Literature

These will be arranged thusly: 1) *CliffsNotes* for those who have lots of time. 2) Literary videos for those who have less time. 3) *Classic Comics* editions for those whose assignments were due yesterday. Note: Poetry will be arranged alphabetically by its two topics-Love and Mother's Day.

### 900 Geography

Weed for sand in the Florida books, moss in the England books, and who-knows-what in the Las Vegas books.

### Fiction

These new labels should save patrons plenty of time: Mysteries-no sex; Mysteries with sex; Spy/intrigue-no sex; Spy/intrigue with sex; Animal stories-no sex-, Animal stories with sex; Animal stories with animal sex; Politics with sex; [there is no "Politics-no sex" yet published].

### Government Depository Books

Sorry, these have all been recalled in the interest of homeland security.

If there are any questions about these guidelines, answer them.

*Originally published in the American Libraries, October 2006.  
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## 2006 Annual Meeting Pictures



FLLS Vice-President Lynn Patti (Seneca County) presenting the Trustee of the Year award to David Griffith of Ovid.



Guest Speaker, Dava Sobol, after her enjoyable speech, signing books for attendees.



Annette Birdsall (r), FLLS Youth Services Consultant, with Joan Cooke Youth Services award winner, Adelle Leise (c) TCPL and Jennifer Schlossberg (l) with an FLLS Recognition of Service award for her Teen Web Page for TCPL.

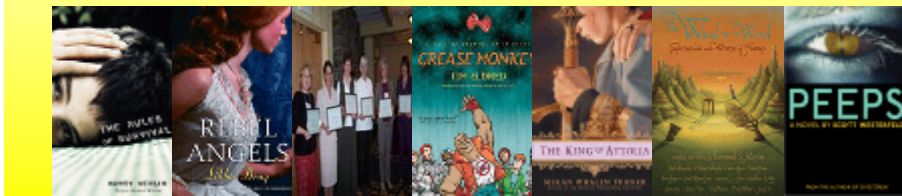


Participating Cayuga Connect Libraries with their awards: (l-r): Leslie Joshi, MOR; Carla Piperno-Jones, UNS; Cheryl Austin, WEED; Sally Otis, POP; Libbie Messina, CATO; Sandy Groth, AURO. Linda Clum, FAIR was absent from the meeting.

## 2006 FLLS 48th Annual Meeting Highlights

- \* FLLS Trustee Len Cohen called the roll of member libraries. With 22 libraries represented, a quorum was declared.
- \* 2005 Annual Meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.
- \* Grace Miller of Spencer was elected to fulfill the remaining 2 years of Valerie Kelly's term that expires in 2008.
- \* The President's and Director's combined report consisted of the DVD *Fish*, that showed a humorous slant on customer service.
- \* Guest Speaker, Dava Sobel, gave a very entertaining talk on the processes she went through to accomplish research for her book, *Galileo's Daughters* and entertained questions from the audience.
- \* The following awards were presented:
  1. Library Trustee of the Year Award—given to **David Griffith**, Trustee of the Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, Ovid, presented by Lynn Patti, Trustee, FLLS;
  2. Joan Cooke Youth Services Award—given to **Adelle Leise**, Tompkins County Public Library, Ithaca, presented by Annette Birdsall, Youth Services Coordinator, FLLS;
  3. Service Recognitions—Presented by FLLS Executive Director, Karen Creenan:
    - ◆ **Stephen Erskine**, Library Director of the Seymour Public Library District, Auburn, for his many years of library service to his community;
    - ◆ **Jennifer Schlossberg**, Adult Services Librarian, Tompkins County Public Library, Ithaca, for her web page design for teens;
    - ◆ **Aurora Free Library**, **Stewart B. Lang Memorial Library-Cato**, **Fair Haven Public Library**, **Powers Library-Moravia**, **Hazard Library-Poplar Ridge**, **Port Byron Library**, **Springport Free Library-Union Springs** and **Weedsport Free Library** for their commitment to the Cayuga Connect Consortium.

*I need a good book.  
Do you have a book just like Looking for Alaska?  
I just finished Grease Monkey, what else can I read?  
I want to read a book about real people.  
I hate fantasy.  
I like Libba Bray..  
There's this book, it's got a boy on the cover...*



**YA Reader's Advisory Workshop  
February 22, 2007  
9\* - 12N**

**\*9-9:30 is registration.**

**RSVP [annette@flls.org](mailto:annette@flls.org) or 273-4074 x. 27**

Explore strategies, tools, and techniques for you to use, borrow, or create to help you provide everyday reader's advisory service for your teen readers.

## Upcoming Dates to Remember:

<b>February</b>	14	Member Library Annual Reports due at FLLS
	15	FALCONS meeting — 9:30am—11:30am
	19	Presidents' Day Observance — System Closed
	22	System Meeting: Youth Reader's Advisory
<b>March</b>	13	NYLA Legislative Day (Lobby Day) in Albany
	22	System Meeting: Summer Reading Program
	23	Deadline for the Spring issue of <i>FLLS News</i>
<b>April</b>	19	System Meeting: All Day—Serving the 50+ Population in your community (LSTA Grant), 9:30am—3:30pm.
<b>May</b>	10	Intergenerational Programming Workshop (LSTA Grant), 9:30am—noon
	17	FALCONS meeting: 9:30am—11:30am
	24	System Meeting: All Day—Surveys 101: Everything You Wanted to Know
	28	Memorial Day Observance — System Closed

## *BOOKS Make Fine FRIENDS*



*with soothing words  
the soul is fed.  
A page is turned  
new thoughts  
are painted in the  
mind.*

*THOUGHTS JOIN LETTERS in JOY.*

Submitted by Pat Moore, Interlaken Public Library



**Get A Clue @ Your Library  
Summer Reading Roundtable  
March 22, 2007  
9am\* - 12N  
\*9 - 9:30 registration**

Attend for your chance to share plans, explore promotional ideas, review evaluation procedures, receive your order forms for free books, and order your free t-shirts! Bring a favorite themed craft or activity to highlight! (FLLS will include instructions in the packets if you provide them.)

RSVP by March 15, 2007 [annette@flls.org](mailto:annette@flls.org) or 273-4074 x. 27

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**Summer Reading T-Shirt Order Form**

Name of Person Ordering \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirts are provided for staff and/or volunteers who actively promote your library's summer reading program. Mark the quantity you need below.  
(Please do not use your Highsmith order form.)

**Return this order form at the summer reading meeting! March 22, 2007**

If you cannot attend the meeting order forms are still due on March 22. Send this order form in the delivery. No late orders will be accepted!

**Child T-shirt**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Toddler 2-4
- \_\_\_\_\_ Small 6-8
- \_\_\_\_\_ Medium 10-12
- \_\_\_\_\_ Large 14-16

**Adult T-shirt**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Small 34-36
- \_\_\_\_\_ Medium 38-40
- \_\_\_\_\_ Large 42-44
- \_\_\_\_\_ X-Large 46-48
- \_\_\_\_\_ XXL 50-52
- \_\_\_\_\_ XXXL 54-56

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Lynn Patti, Vice President  
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Len Cohen, Secretary  
Cortland County

Robert Boothroyd, Tompkins County  
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Marianne O'Connor, Cayuga County  
Mary Ann Park, Cortland County (at-large trustee)  
Mary Ellen Rumsey, Tompkins County  
Julian Thomas, Seneca County  
James Vivenzio, Cayuga County  
Roy Yarrington, Tioga County

Debra Kelsey, Treasurer  
(non-board member)

The **FLLS News** is published quarterly at System headquarters in Ithaca, N.Y. News items are always welcome from librarians, trustees and friends, and should be sent to:

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Ithaca, New York 14850 Tel (607) 273-4074 x21  
Fax (607) 273-3618

Administration:  
Karen E. Creenan, Executive Director  
Frank J. Bocek, Business Manager

*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*

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