

NEWS

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Lesley Gaudreau

Recently, I attended the READS fall conference in Bedford. The topic was the library as a community center and welcoming place. The overwhelming attendance certainly proved that it was a very timely and relevant topic for NH libraries and librarians. We are all working hard to find ways to make our libraries a vital part of our customers' lives in this rapidly changing world.

The NHLA executive board is also working hard to make your library association a vital part of the members' professional lives. We hope that the New Hampshire Library Association can become a community center for New Hampshire's librarians. Part of that process will mean making the association a more welcoming place. Another important part of the process is to continue to improve communication between members and between the board and the membership.

Our annual membership meeting will now be taking place at the fall conference, specifically to allow a greater number of our members to participate in the important discussions and votes that will impact the future of this Association.

The membership committee, led by Colleen Fall, is already working hard on ways to greet new members and be sure that they get information about the association that will help them get what they need and find ways that they can participate. In addition, be on the lookout for a new orientation at the New Hampshire Libraries Conference that will help both new members and new conference-goers navigate the conference and get the most out of the experience.

Members of the executive board will be bringing NHLA information to co-op meetings and other meetings around the state. And, this needs to be a two-way street; those people will be looking for feedback from you so that NHLA can be more responsive to members' needs.

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2000-2001 NHLA EXECUTIVE BOARD

•President - Lesley Gaudreau •Past President - Theresa Paré •Vice President - Rob Sargent •Secretary - Jennifer Bone •Treasurer - Susan McCann

The Public Relations committee, led by Diane Hathaway, is working on a lot of exciting new ways to market the Association and libraries in NH. New Public Service Announcements are in the works with WMUR, a great new brochure has just been printed and the revamped newsletter is already getting rave reviews from the members. Membership questionnaires have been circulating (want one? contact me!) and the responses center on the need for good communication, opportunities for continuing education through workshops and conferences, and library advocacy. Your executive board is moving forward in these areas, but we still need your input. If there's a program topic you would like included at an upcoming conference, let us know. If there is information that would be useful to you on the Web site, let us know.

There were many great ideas shared at the READS conference, but the constant theme was tailoring services to the needs of your community. And we all seemed to agree that this is only possible if your community will participate in a conversation about what those needs are. And we need you to participate in our ongoing conversation about what NHLA's members need and how the membership and the executive board can work together to meet those needs. We want NHLA to be your community center; let's work together to make that happen.

Until next time, be well, do good work and keep in touch. (Thanks, Garrison!)

P.S. I'd love to hear from you on any of these topics, or other things that you're thinking about. Jot down your thoughts and send them by e-mail, van or stamp to me (or anyone on the board) Lesley@WigginML.org or pick up the phone and give me a call - 772-4346. Or consider attending an executive board meeting so that you can join in on the discussion.



NHLA NEWS

New Hampshire Library Association
P.O. Box 2332
Concord, NH 03302-2332
www.state.nh.us/nhla/
(ISSN 1083-0324)

The **NHLA News** is the official newsletter of the New Hampshire Library Association. The newsletter is free to NHLA members and \$6/year for nonmembers.

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**JAMES MATARAZZO TO RETIRE AS
DEAN OF THE SIMMONS COLLEGE GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

James Matarazzo, dean of the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science, is retiring on August 31 after eight years as dean. He will be on sabbatical leave in the fall of 2002 and will return to teach part-time beginning January 2003.

Matarazzo has been dean since 1994. During his tenure, the School began a graduate library program for the western part of Massachusetts, housed on the campus of Mt. Holyoke College, and established the Center for Competitive Intelligence. At the same time the School's endowment increased from \$900,000 to \$4 million and the number of named scholarships increased from four to twenty-nine. Financial Aid to GSLIS students increased by a factor of five and the full time faculty grew from thirteen to seventeen. Three GSLSI alumni were named to the Board of Trustees while Matarazzo was dean.

Simmons College is a nationally recognized, small, private, and predominantly women's university in the heart of Boston. It has undergraduate programs for women and graduate programs for women and men.

NHLA ESTABLISHES AWARD IN HONOR OF ANN GEISEL

By Theresa Paré



Fran Wiggin with Ann Geisel Award

The Ann Geisel Award for Distinguished Service to the New Hampshire Library Community recognizes librarians, libraries, or other individuals and organizations that have contributed to the Association or the New Hampshire library community. They have improved all New Hampshire libraries through their efforts as library professionals, providing library services, or advocating for library issues.

This award is named in the memory of Ann Geisel (1947-1999). Ann personified “distinguished service to the New Hampshire library community”. In addition to serving for many years as the Director of the Peterborough Town Library, she served the New Hampshire library community through her service as a member of the NH Library Association, the Nubanusit Coop, and the NH State Library Advisory Council, including a term as its chair. She was also active in regional and national issues as a member of the Advisory Board of the Northeast Document Conservation Center, the American Library Association, and the New England Library Association.

Individuals, institutions, and organizations may be considered for this award. Significant contributions to the NH library community include, but is not limited to:

- Recognizing NHLA members for significant achievements or overall career accomplishments;
- Recognizing NH libraries for outstanding service to their community;
- Recognizing individuals and/or organizations who have been extremely supportive of NHLA or NH libraries; or
- Recognizing library advocates at the local, state, or national level.

ANN GEISEL AWARD APPLICATION PROCESS

Submit a letter of nomination and two letters of support to the NHLA Awards Committee. Include in the letter of nomination a statement explaining why this individual or organization qualifies for this award. List specific activities and accomplishments. For individuals, also list memberships and offices held in professional organizations and any honors received.

The award will be granted on the vote of the Executive Committee based on the candidates recommended by the Awards Committee. Recommendations to the Executive Board will be made by unanimous vote of the Award Committee.



Theresa Paré presents Geisel Award to Fran Wiggin

FRAN WIGGIN RETIRES

By Michael York

On September 16th more than three hundred people gathered in Manchester to honor Bedford Public Library Director Fran Wiggin. After more than fifty years in the library profession and more than forty years as the Director of the Bedford library, Fran is retiring to spend more time with her husband Ralph and her grandchildren. Fran has made it clear that she will stay active in library affairs in Bedford and at the state level. This is certainly good news to those of us who will want to call on Fran for advice. She will remain active with the Friends of the Bedford Public Library and on the board of the Bedford Library Foundation.

The party in Manchester was an opportunity for Fran's many friends to reflect on how Fran has helped them over the years and what her friendship has meant to them. Fran's son Ken, current State librarian of Connecticut, spoke of his



mother's contribution to the Bedford Library and to the New Hampshire library community. Using the Dewey Decimal System as a metaphor Ken highlighted his mother strengths and accomplishments. Close friend and former NH State Librarian, Shirley Adamovich amused the audience with stories about working with Fran on many projects dating back to the sixties. New Hampshire State Librarian, Michael York told of Fran's willingness to mentor young librarians. He described the phone call he received from Fran shortly after he moved to New Hampshire inviting him to join the New Hampshire Library Association. He also read a commendation from Governor Shaheen (see page 5) commending Fran for all she has done for New Hampshire libraries and librarians and presented Fran with a gift from the New Hampshire College and University Council.

It was a wonderful night that will be remembered by all that attended. Since the retirement party held on September 16th, Fran has won two more distinguished awards; The Bedford Citizen of the Year and the Anne Geisel Award.

Fran is the first recipient of the prestigious Geisel award, named for Ann Geisel town librarian in Peterborough who passed away in 1999.

BEST WISHES FRAN FROM ALL OF YOUR FRIENDS!

FRAN WIGGIN, FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE ANN GEISEL AWARD

By Theresa Paré

Fran Wiggin received the Ann Geisel Award at the NHLA Fall Conference on November 1, 2001. Fran was nominated to receive this honor by the NHLA Awards Committee in recognition of her many accomplishments and contributions to the library profession.

Fran was the Director of the Bedford Public Library until her retirement this fall. During that time, she developed outstanding library services for the residents of Bedford. She built not one but two libraries during her tenure. She was one of the first librarians to embrace automation in the state and was active in NHAIS as well as a founding member of GMILCS, Inc.

Fran is dedicated to the vision and mission of the NH Library Association. She was the longest serving member of the Executive Board as Membership Chair. Her annual auction raised thousands of dollars to support scholarships and other activities of the Association. She routinely mentored new librarians to the state and has served as a role model to many.

Even in retirement, Fran continues to contribute to the library profession in her current role as interim librarian at the Currier Gallery of Art in Manchester. She truly exemplifies "distinguished service to the NH library community". NHLA and profession are the better due to her dedication, service, and outstanding commitment to quality library services.

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HER EXCELLENCY
JEANNE SHAHEEN, GOVERNOR**

A Commendation

FRAN WIGGIN

WHEREAS, FRAN WIGGIN has served the citizens of Bedford in an exemplary way for more than forty years; and

WHEREAS, FRAN WIGGIN has served the New Hampshire Library Association in numerous capacities for over four decades and was the longest serving membership chair of the New Hampshire Library Association; and

WHEREAS, FRAN WIGGIN was instrumental in bringing many new librarians into the New Hampshire Library Association to reap its many benefits, all the while working tirelessly for the New Hampshire library community serving as a mentor to hundreds of librarians over the years, being a strong advocate for both libraries and librarians, and being a staunch defender of intellectual freedom; and

WHEREAS, FRAN WIGGIN has raised thousands of dollars for scholarships as the auctioneer at the New Hampshire Library Association annual meetings, and built not one, but two libraries in Bedford during her tenure with the Bedford library. She has served as a model of leadership, inspiration and advice for all New Hampshire librarians; and

WHEREAS, FRAN WIGGIN was one of the founding members of the Hillstown Library Cooperative and one of the first librarians in the state to embrace automation to help provide better services to Bedford Public Library patrons; and

WHEREAS, FRAN WIGGIN was an inspiration and a role model for not only the State Librarian of New Hampshire the that of Connecticut as well; and

WHEREAS, FRAN WIGGIN is an outstanding person and a fantastic librarian extraordinaire and is retiring after fifty-three years as a librarian.

NOW, THEREFORE, I JEANNE SHAHEEN, GOVERNOR of the State of new Hampshire, do hereby commend **FRAN WIGGIN** for her outstanding contributions to the library community of New Hampshire and to the Town of Bedford and wish her long and enjoyable retirement.



Given at the Executive Chamber in
Concord, this fourteenth day of
September, in the year of Our Lord, two
thousand one, and of the independence
of the United States of America, two
hundred twenty-six.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeanne Shaheen".

GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

ACADEMICS SECTION NEWS

By Carolyn White



On Friday, October 19, 2001, the Academics Section held the first in a series of informal discussions designed to bring librarians from college and university libraries together to discuss topics of mutual interest. The first discussion, which was held at the New Hampshire Community Technical College in Stratham and was hosted by Academics Vice-Chair Becky Clerkin, was on the topic of resource guides and pathfinders. Attendees brought examples of pathfinders to share with the group; the discussion was lively and informative. The Academics section is planning regular discussions; look for announcements of future meetings on the Academics section list, academics-l. For more information about the discussion series and/or the Academics section, contact Carolyn White (UNH Manchester Library) at 641-4172 or carolyn.white@unh.edu.

NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT MAY 2001

By John Barrett, NH Representative

The trial date for the American Library Association's (ALA) legal challenge to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) has been rescheduled for March 25, 2002. Previously set for February 14, 2002, the federal government sought an extension. The case will be heard in United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Plaintiffs in the suit include libraries, library users, state library associations and the Freedom to Read Foundation. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has filed a similar challenge; the two cases have been consolidated by the court and will be heard together. Cheryl McCarthy, NELA Past President, has offered to remain the New England Library Association's CIPA liaison.

The Administrative Committee of NELA's Executive Board voted to move forward with the idea of a regional Leadership Institute as a result of the successful Leadership Conference held last summer at Connecticut College. NELA President, Cheryl Bryan, will chair a strategic planning session in November and issue a report.

Catherine Redden (Hampton, NH), former Junior Director, has become NELA's Senior Director. Cathy will be organizing the next NELA sponsored program for annual conferences of all six state library associations. The program title is "Getting Started in Fundraising." Mary Ann List (Amherst, NH), former Senior Director, has accepted the position of NELA Membership Chair.

The HQ76.3 interest group (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Librarians and Library Workers) has officially become a section of NELA.

The Providence Public Library (RI) was recognized by the Institute of Museum and Library Services for national excellence in service to the community. Congratulations PPL!

The NELA 2001 Annual Conference was held in the Green Mountain State. The City of Burlington (VT) provided beautiful weather, fine restaurants, and inviting watering holes. Conference attendance was high. There were many outstanding programs, speakers and discussion groups. Topics included: legal challenges facing libraries; new approaches to cataloging; organizational culture; wireless networking for libraries; budgeting for electronic resources; linking literature to language and literacy development with young children; discovering the whys and hows of toddler programming, and more. Crowds filled the vendor's exhibit area every day. Margo Crist, Director of Libraries at UMASS, was the recipient of the Emerson Greenaway Distinguished Service Award. Massachusetts was this year's winner of the Snail Award. Conference Manager, Mary Ann Rupert, will file her report at the next NELA Board meeting, which is scheduled on November 30, 2001 at NELINET headquarters in Southborough, MA.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS...



NH STATE LIBRARY TO SHOW WORLD WAR II POSTERS

By Janet Ecklund

On Friday, December 7, 2001, on the sixtieth anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the New Hampshire State Library (20 Park Street, Concord, NH) premiered a first-ever exhibition of sixty-one of its vintage posters from World War Two. The exhibition runs through Saturday, February 2, 2002 (Hours: Monday -Saturday, 10 - 4).

Titled "Unifying a Nation", the exhibition illustrates with posters and an accompanying soundtrack drawn from 1940s radio broadcasts how the American government worked to mobilize American public opinion for a world war fought on two fronts in the days directly following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. Dozens of artists and illustrators worked in government agencies to make every American aware of the huge civilian efforts required to fight both a war in the Pacific and a war in Europe simultaneously. Posters were printed by the government, and circulated by volunteer committees and industries nationwide. Use of the nation's newspapers and radio airwaves helped inspire a massive civilian effort to provide food and supplies for the American military. The successful effort helped make possible the victory of America and the Allied powers in both the Pacific and in Europe in 1945.

Funding for the exhibition is provided by BAE Systems, and by the New Hampshire Conservation License Plate Program. The New Hampshire Veterans Memorial Walkway Campaign Committee, affiliated with the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery Association, is helping to support the opening reception. An illustrated checklist accompanies the exhibition.

The exhibition inaugurates modern-day use of the Art Gallery space originally designed for the New Hampshire State Library in 1895. This space has not been used for exhibitions since the 1930s.

LANE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, HAMPTON

By Catherine Redden

Joanne Straight, former Head of Reference Services at Hampton's Lane Memorial Library, relocated with her family to New Bern, North Carolina in July, and immediately started as Head of Reference there. Now she is Acting Director; so much for plans for a slower paced job!

The Lane Memorial Library welcomed a new Head of Reference Services, Stan Olsen, in September. We are pleased we were able to hire Stan from New York. There he worked at People Magazine's Reference Library answering all kinds of questions and assisting the magazine writers with their background research. He holds two Masters degrees, one in library science from Pratt Institute and one in cinema from NYU School of Film Studies. We're already planning for Stan to work with teens and adults on some book/film study groups.

One of the Lane Memorial Library's best staff meetings was this November. We had a local chiropractor that talked (for free) about relieving stress and who taught us some simple exercises. We scheduled him for right before the holidays and whenever we see anyone stressing out, we can remind him/her to "breathe deeply." Another best meeting was a work session on goals for the library for 2002, followed by the entire staff of 13 going out to eat at the Old Salt (formerly Lamies) in October. (Can you get your whole staff to go out to eat together, especially when they have to pay for it?)

In response to community requests for longer hours, the Lane Memorial Library is now open to 9 P.M. two nights a week on a trial basis. The Children's area closes at 8, leaving Adult Circulation and Reference available for all ages.

LACONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Debbie Ross

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS...

SHIPPING DAY ARRIVES

One afternoon in mid-November the Laconia Public Library sent out five big boxes containing the library's shelf list. The paper records will be converted to computer data. Just the first step in the automation process it was a big one and we anxiously look forward to being fully automated.

LACONIA LIBRARY RECEIVES \$180,000 FEDERAL GRANT

U.S. Representative John E. Sununu recently announced that federal funds totaling \$180,000 have been appropriated for the Laconia Public Library. The grant money will be used to help renovate the building so that it meets the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) with the addition of items such as entrance ramps, an elevator and disability-access bathrooms. The funds will also assist with the rehabilitation and expansion of the library's other facilities.

Rep. Sununu has been working with the city and library officials on this project since April when he visited the city and reviewed the project plans with Trustee Chairman, Robert Selig, Trustees, and Laconia City Manager Eileen Cabanel. On May 17, Sununu, a member of the VA-HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, wrote U.S. Rep. James Walsh, chair of the subcommittee, regarding the importance of the grant. Citing its historical value to the City and Granite State, Sununu's appeal for the grant resulted in Fiscal Year 2002 appropriations for Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development Agencies (VA-HUD). The Laconia Public Library is very grateful to Rep. Sununu for his efforts in securing this wonderful grant.



New Hampshire Library Association
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