

New Hampshire  
**LIBRARY TRUSTEE**  
*The Newsletter of the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association*

Volume 27 No.1 Spring 2011

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SEE YOU  
AT THE  
CONFERENCE!

# Two dates to remember!

## Monday, May 9, 2011

# 2011 NHLTA ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

## TRUSTESHIP TODAY

### Management, Money, and the Message

## April 25, 2011

### deadline date to register for conference

Last year at the conference, due to fire laws, those who had hoped to register at the conference had to regrettably be turned away. To avoid a recurrence, the Education Committee selected a more spacious area for this year's site. Please register in advance so you will be assured of participation.

**SERESC Conference Center**  
**29 Commerce Drive, Bedford, NH**  
**Telephone: 603-206-6800**

**Registration form with a detailed description  
and schedule of each session is available for  
download on the NHLTA website, [www.nhlta.com](http://www.nhlta.com)**

The scope of this year's conference represents an umbrella that unfolds and protects you from possible downpours during your term as a trustee. Back again are some of your favorite presenters. Technology is also playing an important part in the potential development of your responsibilities. The basics of trusteeship and the future outlook are addressed as are regional get-togethers and Friends Forum. What a unique opportunity to meet those with whom you share so much.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD, NHLTA****Conrad Moses, President**

East Kingston 03827  
642-4697  
cmoses.lib@gmail.com

**Adele Knight, Vice President**

Dublin 03444  
563-8937  
adeleknight1@myfairpoint.net

**Sara W. Jones, Secretary**

Salisbury 03268  
648-2469 Fax: 603-648-6425  
smwjones@yahoo.com

**Elizabeth Solon, Treasurer**

Brookline 03033  
249-9453  
elsolon@yahoo.com

**Jean Abbott, Past President**

Dalton 03598  
837-9592  
jeana770@yahoo.com

**Lillian Edelmann**

Nottingham 03290  
679-2269  
liledelmann@comcast.net

**Ann Fabrizio**

Twin Mountain 03595  
846-5420  
afabri@roadrunner.com

**David Hallenbeck**

Amherst 03031  
424-8004  
dth@concur.mv.com

**Constance Kirwin**

Antrim 03440  
588-6650  
cfk@tds.net

**Ed Moran**

Bedford 03110  
472-5912  
epmoran@comcast.net

**Carol A. Snelling**

Holderness 03245  
968-9809  
snellg@roadrunner.com

**Carol Theoharous**

Pelham 03076  
635-2705  
cimit@comcast.net

**Loring Webster**

Brookline 03033  
672-9054  
nlw01@charter.net

**Liaison from State Library**

**Michael York, State Librarian**  
271-2397  
Michael.York@dcr.nh.gov

Directions to Southeastern Regional Education Service Center (SERESC)  
SERESC Conference Center (pronounced sir-esk)  
29 Commerce Drive, Bedford, NH 03110-6835 Main: (603) 206-6800

**From the North or South on I-93:** From I-93, take 293/101W, and stay on 101W. Take Route 3/Kilton Road exit, stay on the right side of exit ramp. At the third set of lights (Marshall's will be in front of you), take a right onto Route 3 (South River Road).

*A. Drive south 2.3 miles (you will see a sign for Commerce Park West on the right, and an Irving station on the left). Take a right at this light. SERESC is the last building on the right, 29 Commerce Drive.*

**From the North on I-293 South:** From I-293 South in Manchester, take the exit for Bedford/Milford to Route 101W and Route 3. Take the Route 3 exit (South River Road). At the end of the ramp, you will be facing Macy's. Turn right (south) and travel 1.9 miles to a stop light. See A.

**From the East:** From Route 101W, bear right onto 293/101W. Staying on 101W, take Route 3/Kilton Road exit, stay on the right side of exit ramp. At the third set of lights (Marshall's will be in front of you), take a right onto Route 3 (South River Road). See A.

**From the West:** Take 101E (note at intersection of 114 and 101 you have to bear right to stay on 101E). Take Route 3 Meetinghouse Road/South River Road exit, this is the first exit after 114 and 101 intersection. At stop lights take a left. At the next set of lights take a right onto Route 3 (South River Road). Drive south 1.8 miles. See A.

**From the South on Route 3/Everett Turnpike:** Heading north on Route 3/Everett Turnpike, take Exit 12. Go through toll booths to stop light. Turn right. At next stop light, turn left onto the Old Route 3/DW Highway. Drive approximately 3 ½ miles. You will come to an intersection where you will see an Irving Station on your right and a sign for Commerce Park West on the left. Take a left at this light onto Commerce Drive. SERESC is the last building on the right.

**WANTED**

We are working a project to showcase our association members and would like a photo of each of the 235 public libraries in the state.

Please send your best shot—unaltered—jpeg format, to Connie Kirwin at: cfk@tds.net.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Part of the responsibility of NHLTA is to help deserving people achieve goals in the library world. This is through scholarship money that is available for workshops, conferences, college library courses, and modular library courses.

Please contact: Betsy Solon, Treasurer

2 Shady Rock Road, Brookline, NH 03033

E-mail at elsolon@yahoo.com or call 603-249-9453

Scholarship information is also available on NHLTA website: [www.nhlta.com](http://www.nhlta.com)

**Newsletter Staff**

Editor and Graphic Designer: Carol Theoharous

Associate Editor: Connie Stone

The New Hampshire Library Trustees Association newsletter is published quarterly. Contributions of articles, items for the Calendar of Events, and editorial correspondence are always welcome.

Please submit by June 1, 2011 for the summer issue and send to Carol Theoharous via e-mail to [cimit@comcast.net](mailto:cimit@comcast.net).

**ATTENTION PLEASE!!**

This article is addressed to ALL TRUSTEES in this state, MEMBERS or NON-MEMBERS of NHLTA.

We are experiencing the greatest, most critical financial crisis in this country since the Great Depression of the 1930's. Severe cuts are being made in every Federal, State and local Town budget.

In searching for information on the Internet to help in the revision of our manual, and not finding what I was looking for, many questions came up and I started communicating with a number of long time national associates. It became apparent that many State Trustees Associations are in dire financial straits because of their affiliation with their State Library.

Federal, State and local budgets are decimating their State Libraries. You Trustees, associated with NHLTA, will not be affected by any Federal or State cuts. NHLTA IS AN INDEPENDENT, NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION, NOT DEPENDING UPON FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL FUNDING, comprised of all volunteer officers and directors. The need to reassure you of this information is paramount. You know what our Vision Statement says, we "WILL educate you to become the most knowledgeable, responsible trustees in the state." No matter what, NHLTA will always exist! Yes, you might have to work harder than ever if financial cuts are made in your town budget. It's up to you to insure that all of the residents/patrons of your library are aware of financial losses, and have to pitch in with you to keep those doors open. Times might get tough, but that's when the tough get going! Your advocacy for your library should command, empower and inspire your neighbors. Whatever it takes to keep those library doors open, the Heartbeat of Democracy must be heard, pounding through all of the windows. The Free People's University is your mantra to sound always. You Trustees, as the Jewels in the Crown of that Democracy, are impassioned and expected to breathe the strength and power into the veins of your library in these times of severe need.

This is the time to pick yourself up and battle.

*Lil Edelmann*, Chair  
Education Committee

**2011 NHLTA SPRING CONFERENCE...**

...the ideal site for education and socialization. NH Trustees gather, share, and return to their libraries with confidence and knowledge that they can better handle the responsibilities of their trusteeship.

**2011 SPRING CONFERENCE  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**MARILYN JOHNSON**  
Author, Poet, Essayist

*THE WILL AND THE WAY:  
A PRAGMATIST'S VISION FOR THE  
21ST CENTURY LIBRARY*

About *This Book Is Overdue! How  
Librarians and Cybrarians Can  
Save Us All*

"...a topical, witty study of the vital ways modern librarians uphold their traditional roles as educators, archivists, and curators of a community legacy. Illuminating the state of the modern librarian with humor and authority...Johnson's wry report is a must-read for anyone who's used a library in the past quarter century."

—*Publishers Weekly* starred review

**Marilyn Johnson - Selected Works****Books**

*This Book Is Overdue!*  
Are librarians obsolete in the Google era? They couldn't be more important

*The Dead Beat*  
A former obituary writer celebrates the cult and culture of obituaries

**Obituaries**  
*One of a Kind: A Tribute to Katharine Hepburn*  
A salute to the great actress from Life Book's Katharine Hepburn: 1907-2003

*Talk about Pain: A Tribute to Marlon Brando*

He was talented and care-less and pain followed him wherever he hid.

**Poetry**  
*Strata*  
Poem in response to a painting by Stanford Kay

*The Detachment*  
A poem from *Field*, a literary journal.

*The Typing Pool*  
Another poem from *Field*.

**Essays**  
*About Books*  
An avid reader's wry take on books, past and present

## STATE LIBRARY NEWS

**New Hampshire State Library  
...receives Lorenz Award**

The New Hampshire State Library is pleased to announce that it has received the John G. Lorenz Award from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Lorenz Award recognizes state library agencies that promptly meet Institute of Museum and Library Services' standards for the completeness, quality and timely submission of their state library agency data in a given year. These statistical data are used by chief officers of state library agencies, federal and state policymakers, government and library administrators at all levels, the American Library Association and its members, as well as researchers, the public and journalists.

The award is named for John G. Lorenz, who worked in the library field for 57 years. He was instrumental in creating the Library Statistics Program, which pioneered and developed the use of electronics in recording, editing, communicating and publishing library surveys.

**...expands offerings for visually impaired**

The New Hampshire State Library's Talking Books Service is expanding its offerings to include audiobooks available from the NH. Downloadable Books service.

Talking Books provides audiobooks at no cost to those unable to read or use standard print materials as a result of a temporary or permanent visual or physical limitation. Patrons are provided with special audio players and can select from thousands of titles available in Talking Books' library.

Each year, Talking Books serves more than 2,000 New Hampshire residents and lends more than 90,000 books.

New Hampshire's Talking Books Service will continue to make material from its existing lending library available. In addition, patrons will now also be able to use digital players, such as iPods, to listen to titles available from the New Hampshire Downloadable Books service.

"New Hampshire's Talking Books Service has provided material to the blind and physically challenged—including veterans—for generations. Often it is the only way that they are able to access these materials," said Michael York, state librarian. "The New Hampshire State Library is pleased to be able to expand this service by making downloadable audio books available to them."

To access material from New Hampshire Downloadable Books, Talking Books' patrons will need to contact their

local library to see if it belongs to the New Hampshire Downloadable Books Consortium; they will also need a valid library card, computer, internet access and compatible audio player. Patrons whose libraries do not belong to the New Hampshire Downloadable Books Consortium can work directly with Talking Books Service to set up an account.

More information about the New Hampshire State Library's Talking Books Service is available at [www.nh.gov/nhsl/talking\\_books](http://www.nh.gov/nhsl/talking_books) and by calling (603) 271-3429 or (800) 491-4200 (toll free in New Hampshire only).

The New Hampshire Downloadable Books service is available at <http://nh.lib.overdrive.com/>.

*(Editor's Note: The new director of the NHSL Talking Books Service will be Marilyn Stevenson, a highly motivated and welcome addition, according to Michael York, State Librarian. She is from the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative in Clearwater, Florida.)*

**...organizes Library Edition of Ancestry.com**

Through a program initiated by the New Hampshire State Library, public libraries throughout the state now have access to Ancestry.com's Library Edition, which includes more than 7,000 databases that deliver billions of records using censuses, vital records, immigration records, family histories, military records, court and legal documents, directories, maps and more.

The Library Edition of Ancestry.com is available only at participating libraries; you cannot log in from home. Patrons with laptops can access the information on site at libraries with wireless internet access.

You can learn not only about people's birth, marriage and death dates, but also their jobs, how long they went to school, who lived with them and other interesting facts. You can even view enlistment records and, in some cases, find the streets they lived on or learn their phone numbers.

New content is always being added, so you can keep coming back to discover more about your ancestors—or even others.

To date, more than eighty New Hampshire public libraries are using Ancestry.com's Library Edition through the group organized by the New Hampshire State Library. As interest increases, more libraries will be added.

*Shelly Angers, NH Department of Cultural Resources  
(603) 271-3136  
shelly.angers@dcr.nh.gov*

## 2011 Spring Conference Trusteeship Today - Management, Money and the Message

There is an upside to your duties as a library trustee and you can treat the job with humor and harmony. That happens most of the time when you know what you're doing.

There are also problems that can appear to confuse you. When you arm yourself with laws that tell you in black and white what you should do in given situations, you can tackle the world. Your New Hampshire RSAs regarding the library are your protection and your guide. Respected authorities are also an excellent source of expertise when you need help.

The spring conference is filled with subjects that arouse your imagination, confirm your ideas, and offer you sounding boards for interpersonal contacts.

Please bear in mind that seating is limited and sending your registration forms as soon as you can is a terrific idea!

You are involved with the obligation to try your darndest to keep that library of yours open to serve the needs of your community. And NHLTA is going to help you.

### Presenters at the Conference: (in alphabetical order)

**Kim Ayers** - Chair of the Amherst Friends of the Library.

**Tom Burack** - Commissioner of the NH Department of Environmental Services.

**Katherine DeForest** - Associate attorney with Sulloway and Hollis, PLLC, Concord and legal counsel for NHLTA.

**Ann Edwards** - Associate Attorney General and Interim Director of Charitable Trusts, NH State Government.

**Elizabeth Ives** - Chair of the Derry Public Library Trustees. Past President, NHLTA and Member of Education Committee.

**Margaret Ives** - Respected authority on Personnel Management with over 35 years experience in Human Resources.

**Sally Jones** - Chair, Salisbury Library Trustees. Director and Secretary of NHLTA Board of Directors. Member of Education Committee.

**Leslie Kimball** - Library Director at Wiggin Library, Stratham and winner of 2010 NHLTA Librarian of the Year.

**Connie Kirwin** - Former trustee Tuttle Library, Antrim. NHLTA Director and Chair of Communications Committee. Member of Governance Committee

**Adele Knight** - Trustee, Dublin Public Library for 14 years (chair for 8 years.) NHLTA Vice President and Chair of Governance Committee.

**Terry Knowles** - Assistant Director, Charitable Trusts, Department of the NH Attorney General, is a recognized authority on charitable foundations and trusts.

**Tom Ladd** - Former Director of Education at NH State Library. Consultant to NHLTA. Member of Governance Committee.

**Mary Ann Leon** - Consultant specializing in management and leadership issues in non-profit organizations. Facilitator of two NHLTA retreats and valued assistant in creating a strategic plan for the association.

**Lichen Rancourt** - Consultant Technology Librarian to help with anything from public computing to website development or automation.

**Bobbi Slossar** - Technology Resources Librarian at NH State Library.

**Elizabeth Solon** - Former trustee of Brookline Public Library. Director and Treasurer on NHLTA Board. Chair of Finance Committee and Member of Technology Committee.

**Carolyn Sundquist** - Chair of Tuftonboro Board of Selectmen.

**Rick Van Wickler** - Superintendent of the Cheshire County Department of Corrections with many years of management experience.

*DON'T FIND FAULT, FIND A REMEDY.  
~Henry Ford*

### First Bookmobile in the United States

The first bookmobile in the United States was introduced in Washington County, Maryland in 1905. Mary Titcomb, the first librarian of Washington County Free Library, considered the need for the library to get books in homes throughout the county, not just in Hagerstown, the county seat. The first step was to send boxes of books on the Library Wagon to the general store or the post office in small towns and villages throughout the county. By 1904 boxes with 30 volumes each were sent to 66 deposit stations, to extend the reach of the library and manage the practical distribution to the books.

But Miss Titcomb was not satisfied and considered the good roads in Washington County well adapted for coverage by well planned routes. Plans were laid before the Board of Trustees who approved of the idea. The first wagon, when finished with shelves on the outside and a place for storage of cases in the center resembled somewhat a cross between a grocer's delivery wagon and the tin peddlers cart of bygone New England days. Filled with an attractive collection of books and drawn by two horses, with Mr. Joshua Thomas the janitor both holding the reins and dispensing the books, it started on its travels in April 1905. *Notes:* It was reported that the horses names were Dandy and Black Beauty.

In August 1910 the original book wagon was destroyed while crossing the Norfolk and Western Railroad track. In 1912 a motorized book wagon was introduced, the first of a long fleet of vehicles, taking books to the men, women and children of Washington County, Maryland, not just those in the rural areas, but those in senior citizen homes, head start programs, schools and many other county residences.

As Miss Titcomb noted: "Any account of this first Book Wagon work, the first in the United States would be incomplete without the statement that this method of rural library extension has been adopted in many states in the Union, and that new book wagons are being put in operation each year." Indeed bookmobiles are now found as part of many library systems around the world, utilizing vans and buses, but also boats, camels and even donkeys. From the first "perambulating library" in Warrington, England in 1858 to the first 20th century book wagon in the United States in 1905, to the more modern book and media delivery systems, libraries are still taking their wares to an appreciative public.

Western Maryland Regional Library  
101 Tandy Drive, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

### Library of Congress "Truck"mobile

The Library of Congress will launch a new traveling exhibition that will bring facsimiles of many of its top treasures and information about the millions of resources in its unparalleled collections to the heartland of America. "Gateway to Knowledge," an exhibition made possible by the generous support of the Bernie and Audre Rapoport family will travel in a specially fitted 18-wheel truck expected to visit up to 60 sites in states across the Midwest and South over the next year.

The exhibit and its national tour will bring the Library's riches to areas of the nation -- particularly rural areas -- that may not be aware of their access to the wealth of information in this publicly funded institution.

The exhibit will include programming especially for teachers and students and provide relevant and engaging learning experiences for lifelong learners. The truck, which will be staffed and driven by two docents well-versed in the Library and its collections, will be parked at various schools, libraries, community centers and other public venues.

The trailer expands to three times its road width, and visitors will enter from a central staircase to find several areas of museum-style exhibits including a welcoming multimedia display, computer terminals displaying Library of Congress websites including the main site, [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov) and other library websites including the

Center for the Book/Literacy Programs site [www.read.gov](http://www.read.gov) and sites pertaining to U.S. collections, exhibitions and a special site for use by teachers.

The exhibition will also outline the history of the Library, including Thomas Jefferson's role in allowing its re-establishment following the burning of the U.S. Capitol in 1814 by providing his personal book collection to the nation. Jefferson's organization of his books by "Memory, Reason and Imagination" will inform the organization of the exhibition.

The exhibition will feature facsimiles of such treasures as the 1507 Waldseemüller Map (the first document to use the word "America"); the 1455 Gutenberg Bible; the rough draft of the Declaration of Independence, in Thomas Jefferson's hand with edits by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams; the 1962 drawings for the comic book that introduced Spider-Man to the world; the handwritten manuscript to jazz pioneer Jelly Roll Morton's "Frog-i-More Rag"; and Walt Whitman's poem "Leaves of Grass."

Founded in 1800, the Library of Congress is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution. The Library seeks to spark imagination and creativity and to further human understanding and wisdom by providing access to knowledge through its magnificent collections, programs and exhibitions.



**Stan Arthur, New Hampshire State Library Van Driver**



## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

**Stan Arthur**

Van Driver, New Hampshire State Library

In acknowledgement of his 35 years as van driver for the New Hampshire State Library, Stan Arthur gratefully accepted the tributes and accolades poured upon him by distinguished members at the NH State Library. Now in his 37th year with the library, he is as enthusiastic over his job as the day he accepted his new “calling.”

In 1974, Arthur answered an ad for a ‘NHSL Bookmobile Driver’ and worked hard to secure that position because he felt very strongly that this was the direction he wanted his life to lead. Daily persistence pays and he got the job.

He is as conscientious about his job today as then. Daily checks with the Internet radar have resulted in very few days being seriously affected weather-wise for Stan to decide to call off the route. “I’m obsessive about the weather!” He has clocked over a million miles over the years. There have been traffic jams and horrendous road conditions, but the books (and sometimes, furniture) get through. He carries correspondence, audiobooks, CDs and DVDs as well as books. “I know that people are out there waiting for what we have to deliver...the bottom line is the patron. They’re why we’re here.”

Until the early to mid-1980’s, Bookmobile service was used to transport books in bulk form to the various libraries throughout the state. There were four State Library district offices in Concord, Exeter, Keene, and Twin Mountain. Between two and five libraries within each district were served at a time in a complete circuit that could take three months. It was the only way many of the smaller libraries could keep their collections up-to-date without spending money. The service (Interlibrary Loan, ILL) was a necessity.

Librarians came on board to spend at least an hour looking through the collection of books to select those that would appeal to their patrons.

In contrast, more libraries are served today with more frequent deliveries. Boxes of collections are ordered and presorted by trustees and library staff and only the time needed to transport the boxes from the vans to the libraries is set for each delivery. Stan notes that “the principle difference over time is the sheer volume of items that we move...it keeps increasing as more people are aware of the service.”

Stan Arthur has seen many employees of the State Library come and leave during his tenure. He beams when describing his work and has no plans or desire to retire. “I’ve had the pleasure of working with the nicest, the greatest, people and not just here at the State library, but the library community as a whole. It’s been an amazing privilege. It’s been the reason why I’m so happy at my job.”

Service by vans to New Hampshire libraries emanates from the State Library. There are three other drivers, Heather Brownell, Jarod Reinhard, and Jim Weatherbee. Details and routes are on the New Hampshire State Library website at [www.nh.gov/nhsl/services/librarians/van\\_delivery/index.html](http://www.nh.gov/nhsl/services/librarians/van_delivery/index.html).

*He is an outstanding ambassador for  
the State Library.*

Michael York, NH State Librarian

STATE LIBRARY WEBSITE  
from *Best Practices for New Hampshire Libraries -  
Volunteers* (September 2010)

#### ADULT VOLUNTEERS – GENERAL

It is very clear in both state (NH RSA 275.42-I; NH RSA 279:1X; and NH LAB 803.05 Exemption) and federal law (29 CFR 553.100-.106 and WH Publication 1297 “Employment Relationship” of the Fair Labor Standards Act) that a volunteer cannot take the place of a paid worker who is already employed by the library. For example, a Town’s Board of Selectmen would not be able to replace a paid library employee with a volunteer simply because they wanted to save money in a tight budget year.

The main issue surrounding adult volunteers in New Hampshire libraries concerns the amount of specificity regarding the type of work and when it needs to be performed. Volunteer work should be informal, meaning if the volunteer didn’t show up, the library’s regular operations would not be adversely affected. According to the US Department of Labor, if a volunteer is being told to be at the library to work on a specific day at a specific time for a designated amount of time, the volunteer is now defined as an employee by the US DOL. This is a critical issue for those libraries using volunteers to keep the library open in the absence of regular paid staff. If volunteers are being told to open the library on a specific day at a designated time and to keep the library open for a set period of time, those individuals are not considered volunteers by the US DOL.

**BEST PRACTICES:** To determine if your library’s volunteer duties and requirements are acceptable under state and federal law, ask these questions:

1. Is the volunteer taking the place of a paid worker already employed by the library? This is illegal under both state and federal statutes.
2. Are the volunteer’s duties already a major portion of a paid staff person’s job description? If so, that volunteer could be considered an employee by US DOL.
3. Is the volunteer being told to come in at a specific time for a specific duration on a specific day?  
According to US DOL, yes to all three of those criteria classifies them as an employee.
4. Would the non-arrival of a volunteer adversely impact the regular day-to-day operation of the library? If yes, then the volunteer is taking on duties that are already a major part of a paid staff person’s responsibilities and would therefore be classified as an employee by US DOL.
5. Does your library need to have certain volunteer tasks done on a regular scheduled basis? These tasks should probably be done by a paid employee, not a volunteer.

Examples of tasks that are ongoing yet unscheduled (and could be done by a volunteer) includes book covering, book repair, disc cleaning, shelf reading, etc.

#### ADULT VOLUNTEERS – LIBRARY TRUSTEES

According to NH RSA 202-A:11, elected library trustees have certain responsibilities, including the appointment of a librarian (who is not a trustee) to oversee the day-to-day operation of the library. Elected library trustees have volunteered to hold their trustee positions, and have fiscal and legal responsibility for the library as a whole. According to NH RSA 202-A:14, library trustees cannot be compensated for their trustee duties except for necessary travel expenses related to professional meeting attendance.

If a trustee wants to volunteer in the library in a capacity other than being a trustee, the volunteer duties should be clearly spelled out in a volunteer agreement in order to show that the volunteer duties are not related to the individual’s duties as trustee. There is a potential for conflict of interest in this situation given that the trustee would be supervised by library employees that are either hired by the Board of Trustees or approved by the Board of Trustees to be hired by the Librarian.

A number of libraries in NH have indicated that they pay their library trustees to act as substitute employees when regular library employees are unavailable. This is not specifically prohibited by state law since the trustee is technically not getting paid to carry out their trustee duties, but does open up some potential ethical and legal conflict of interest issues for the library profession. According to NH RSA 202-A:17, library employees can only be removed by library trustees. If the trustee is also paid as an employee, there is a definite conflict of interest if the performance of the individual as a library employee is problematic. What recourse would the librarian have to recommend the removal of an individual as an employee if that employee is also a library trustee?

#### **BEST PRACTICES:**

1. If a trustee wants to volunteer in the library in a capacity other than being a trustee, their volunteer duties and supervision by library staff should be clearly spelled out in a volunteer agreement signed by the individual and the library director. This agreement should also be reviewed by the library’s Board of Trustees so that the entire governing body is aware of the scope of the volunteer work and potential conflict of interest concerns.
2. Library trustees should amend their by-laws to include a statement that prohibits elected trustees to be paid employees of the library during their tenure as trustee, and that immediate family members of trustees cannot work as employees of the library for the duration of the elected trustee’s tenure.

**Disaster planning help available for cultural organizations**

New Hampshire winters present many possible hazards: ice storms, damage caused by snow buildup, burst pipes, extended power outages and more. For art galleries, historical societies, libraries and other cultural organizations, damage caused by these disasters often can be difficult to overcome, and knowing where to turn for help can be overwhelming.

The New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources has developed a web-based resource for cultural organizations needing disaster-related assistance: [www.nh.gov/nhculture/disaster\\_planning.htm](http://www.nh.gov/nhculture/disaster_planning.htm). It lists resources that cultural organizations can use to help them plan for disasters as well as to recover from them.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)'s "dPlan" ([www.dplan.org](http://www.dplan.org))—a free online tool that can be used to create plans for both disaster prevention and response—is just one way that organizations can ready

themselves. Other tools include ReadyNH ([www.nh.gov/readynh](http://www.nh.gov/readynh)), the State of New Hampshire's emergency preparedness website; the Institute of Museum and Library Services' "Guide to Online Resources" ([www.imls.gov/collections/resources/prepare\\_prep.htm](http://www.imls.gov/collections/resources/prepare_prep.htm)); the Federal Emergency Management Agency's website ([www.fema.gov/plan/index.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/index.shtm)) and others.

"Everyone's primary concern in the event of a disaster should be their own personal safety, along with the well-being of their families and others they care about," said Van McLeod, commissioner of the Department of Cultural Resources. "Cultural organizations, no matter how small, should have a solid plan in place that can minimize the impact of both man-made and natural disasters. Doing so can make a difference in their survival. The Department of Cultural Resources is pleased to be able to offer this resource."

*Shelly Angers*, N.H. Department of Cultural Resources  
(603) 271-3136 [shelly.angers@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:shelly.angers@dcr.nh.gov)

**Library of Congress Report - Year 2010 at a Glance**

- Welcomed more than 1.7 million on-site visitors.
- Provided reference services to 527,466 individuals in-person, by telephone, and through written and electronic correspondence.
- Total of 147,093,357 items in the collections, including:
  - 22,194,656 cataloged books in the Library of Congress classification system
  - 11,748,914 books in large type and raised characters, incunabula (books printed before 1501), monographs and serials, bound newspapers, pamphlets, technical reports, and other printed material
  - 113,149,787 items in the nonclassified (special) collections. These included:
    - 3,116,691 audio materials, such as discs, tapes, talking books, and other recorded formats
    - 64,591,135 manuscripts
    - 5,415,134 maps
    - 16,502,298 microforms
    - 6,112,543 pieces of sheet music
    - 14,646,373 visual materials, including:
    - 1,234,168 moving images

- 12,715,151 photographs
- 102,467 posters
- 594,587 prints and drawings

Circulated more than 25 million disc, cassette and Braille items to more than 800,000 blind and physically handicapped patrons.

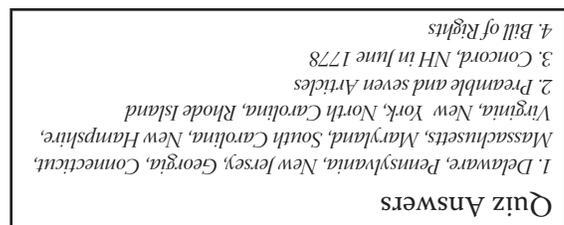
Registered 636,527 claims to copyright.

Prepared 1,405 legal research reports for Congress and other federal agencies through the Law Library.

Recorded more than 77 million visits and 581.1 million page-views on the Library's website. At year's end, the Library's online primary source files totaled 24.6 million.

Employed a permanent staff of 3,597 employees.

Operated with a total fiscal 2010 appropriation of \$646.3 million, including authority to spend \$40.96 million in receipts.



## Editorial

With cuts on the agenda for library services and local government thinking that “culture” should be on the back burner for support, the NHLTA is taking a stand to show how valuable and vital libraries are to the community and the world. Advocacy is one of the most important responsibilities of the library trustee. Be aware of what your politicians consider “necessary.” Who is getting hurt and who is benefitting by these cuts?

Almost twenty years ago, cuts took place with the State Library service to non-libraries in the North Country, although the van route to libraries in that area continues. However, the personal approach to individuals who were unable to go to libraries no longer exists.

Lil Edelmann and John Wright drove the North Country van *The Library Goes to You* distributing printed media, books, puppets, games, and numerous other needs to the residents of their area. It wasn't just materials they carried, it was compassion, companionship, and

outreach to learning. Stops included preschools, schools, nursing homes, elderly congregate sites, individual shut-ins, community stops, low-income housing complexes, and shelters. Their circulation for eleven months totalled 34,390.

They drove through the worst conditions because as Lil says, “we knew we couldn't abandon them.” Unfortunately however, the program abandoned them because of cuts in the budget.

So the indomitable Lil, set her energy toward a project that has had far-reaching effects for library trustees in the state of New Hampshire and has influenced much of the progress we see today with the NHLTA.

There is a future and a past. Needs have been the same for centuries. Education is a requisite that cannot be set aside. It is for everyone, old and young to have access.

CAT

**National Library Week** to be observed April 10-16, 2011 with the theme, “Create your own story @ your library®.”

John Grisham, Honorary Chair of National Library Week

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

National Library Workers Day, celebrated the Tuesday of National Library Week (April 12, 2011), is a day for library staff, users, administrators and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.

**National Bookmobile Day** (Wednesday, April 13, 2011) celebrates our nation's bookmobiles and the dedicated library professionals who provide this valuable and essential service to their communities every day.

National Bookmobile Day is an opportunity for bookmobile's fans to make their support known—through thanking bookmobile staff, writing a letter or e-mail to their libraries, or voicing their support to community leaders.

Audrey Niffenegger, library supporter and acclaimed author of *The Time Traveler's Wife*, *Her Fearful Symmetry*, and the illustrated novel *The Night Bookmobile*, has lent her support to America's bookmobiles as the National Bookmobile Day Honorary Chair.

National Bookmobile Day is coordinated by the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS), the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS), and the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL).

### QUIZ CORNER

1. Name the states that ratified the Constitution. Extra credit for the correct order.
2. Fill in the blanks: The Constitution originally consisted of \_\_\_\_\_ and in that form was signed at a convention of the States on \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Where and when did the world's first constitutional convention meet?
4. What is the first part of the New Hampshire Constitution called?



## BROWSINGS OF A BIBLIOPHILE

*...Reading is the only engagement in which there is no alloy; it lasts when all other pleasures fade.*

—Anthony Trollope

*Why Do We Say It?: The Stories Behind the Words, Expressions, and Clichés We Use* by Frank Oppel. I found this fun book at a garage sale last week. Brand new. It looked like it had never been opened. The woman who held the sale couldn't remember where she got it. Well, I'm the lucky one now. It's a good conversation starter and great fun.

Phrases and words are listed alphabetically, so everything is easy to find. The book jacket asks the first question: Why is a lollipop so called? (You can't forget this one.) In the northern part of England, the word "lolly" means "tongue". A lump of candy that you "pop" in and out of your mouth onto your tongue is aptly called a "lollypop".

Oh, how I enjoyed this book. I marked all the pages of fascinating stories of why we say what we say. Here are some more good ones. Ready?

What is the real meaning of "Amen"? Amen is generally accepted as "so be it". But, in the Hebrew language, from which it comes, Amen literally means "truly". When we say the word at the end of a prayer or a hymn, we assert its truth and sincerity. Amen is also the last word in the Bible.

Why is a little doily on the back of a chair called an "antimacassar"? In the early part of the 19th Century, it was the custom for men to oil their hair. The most popular oil was known as "oil of Macassar". Careful housekeepers found that a piece of cloth, placed on the chair where the head rested, would protect against oil spots on the upholstery. Therefore they called a chair doily an "antimacassar".

How did a "bookie" get that name? A "bookie" (also called a bookmaker) carries, at all times, a book in which he puts down the bets you have placed with him (or her).

What is the origin of the expression "C.O.D."? In 1841 a merchant in New York City asked an express man (not a mailman) to deliver a package. He ordered the express man, "Don't let him have it until he pays you \$16.50. If he can't or won't give you the money, bring the package back to me. I want cash on delivery". Within twenty years, C.O.D. began to be used.

Why does the word "corn" mean so many different grains? Corn originally meant any small particle – even sand or salt. That's why beef preserved by the use of salt is called "corned beef". When corn finally came to mean a certain type of grain, it was used to refer to the grain that was the leading crop of a locality. In England, corn is wheat; in Scotland and Ireland, corn is oats, and in the United States, it is maize.

How did the last course of a meal come to be called "dessert"? The word is from the French *desservir* meaning "to clear the table". At one time the tablecloth was removed before the final sweet was served. (Editor's comment: Today, of course, we merely remove the crumbs.)

Why do we call a light sleep a "cat nap"? Cats are so crafty. A cat, while playing with a mouse that it has caught, will pretend to sleep, and the mouse tries to escape. That gives the cat even more fun in playing with its catch.

How did the "grandfather clock" get that name? It comes from a popular song from the 1880s, which began: "My grandfather's clock was too tall for the shelf ... So it stood ninety years on the floor."

What is the reason a periodical is called a "magazine"? It is considered a storehouse for numerous articles. The term comes from *Makhzan*, the Arabic word for "storehouse". It was originally applied to a place used by the Army for storing arms. "Magazine" was first used in its present sense, in 1731, when "The Gentleman's Magazine" appeared.

How did the "Ouija Board" get that name? "Ouija" means "yes, yes". The name is a compound of the French "oui" and the German "ja", and, no doubt, is derived from the fact that the "ouija board" agrees with its operators. (Emma's note: It is a mechanical "yes man".)

What is the origin of the term "pin money"? When pins were introduced at the beginning of the 16th Century, they were made of silver and considered quite a luxury. They were used as gifts. In time, however, instead of a husband giving his wife a gift of pins, he gave her money to buy the pins. Following that, the term was extended to signify the sum of money a man gave his wife – each year, or upon their marriage – for her private expenses. Finally, "pin money" became recognized in law, and a wife could sue to collect, but only for one year's "pin money".

Why do we refer to a Conservative political party as a "Party of the Right" and a Liberal party as a "Party of the Left"? That is how they are traditionally seated in the legislatures of Europe. The presiding officer was generally a man of position, and therefore, a Conservative. So he seated the Conservatives on his right, in order to honor them more than the Liberals he seated on his left.

What is the origin of the word "School"? The word is from the Greek, and originally meant "leisure". In ancient Greece, only a person of leisure could go to school.

What is the reason that a party for the bride-to-be is called a shower? At this special party given for the bride-to-be, gifts are "rained" down upon her.

Why is a book called a "volume"? Ancient books were written on sheets of paper which were fastened together, lengthwise, and rolled up like a window shade. "Volume" is from the Latin *volvere*, meaning "to roll up".

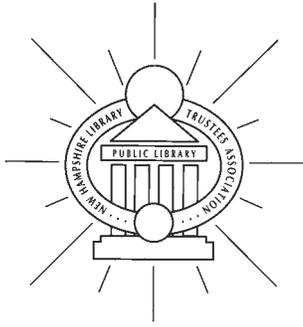
Why is Christmas so often written "Xmas"? The X is the Greek letter chi, written X – and chi is the initial letter of the Greek word for "Christ".

What is the reason we call a gathering for work a "bee"? Honeybees all work, and all work together, for the good of the hive. Human beings, who get together on a similar co-operative work project, call it a "bee".

So, here you have some examples of why we say what we say. The book was copyrighted in 1985, by Book Sales, Inc. of New York City. Hope you've enjoyed some of these samples. See you next issue. Hopefully, we'll get back to my dictionary collection.

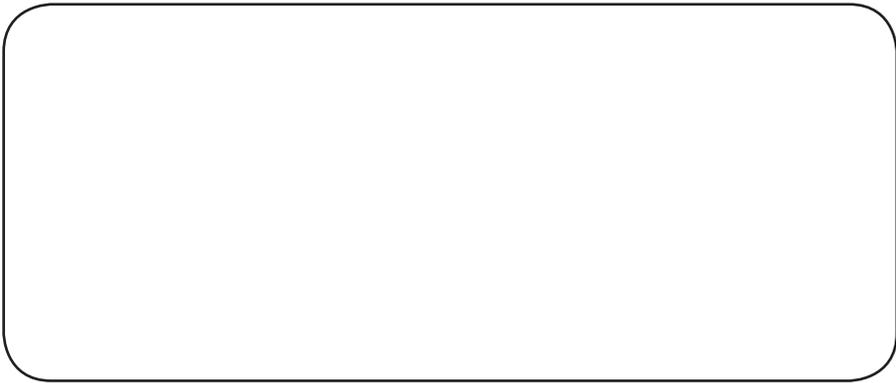
by *Emma Smith*  
NHLTA Education Committee

NH  
Library Trustees  
Association  
PO Box 617  
Concord, NH  
03302-0617



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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Wednesday, April 6 - NHLTA Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00 am  
Local Government Center, Concord  
(meetings are held on first Wednesday of each month)

April 10-16 - National Library Week  
Wednesday, May 4 - NHLTA Board Meeting

Monday, May 9 - NHLTA Annual Spring Conference,  
SERESC Conference Center, 29 Commerce Drive, Bedford

Wednesday, June 1 - NHLTA Board Meeting

First week in June - Orientations (details in April)

