



2012 NHLTA ANNUAL AWARDS WINNERS

LIBRARY OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Gilford Public Library – Gilford

LILLIAN EDELMANN TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Stephen Campbell, Converse Free Library – Lyme

LIBRARY DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Kristine Finnegan, Olivia Rodham Memorial Library – Nelson

DOROTHY M. LITTLE AWARD:

Sara (Sally) Jones – Salisbury

**SUE PALMATIER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT
BY A “FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY” GROUP:**

The Friends of the East Kingston Public Library

Complete reports of the presentations to recipients and accompanying photos will be published in the next edition of New Hampshire Library Trustee newsletter.

NORTH COUNTRY OPEN HOUSE

Weeks Memorial Library, Lancaster

On Wednesday July 25 facilitators Tom Ladd and Marcia Burchstead, acting on behalf of NHLTA, hosted an open house geared to those trustees representing libraries located north of the notches.

Nine trustees from four libraries (Lancaster, Whitefield, Jefferson and Colebrook) and one library director (Lancaster) attended.

Ladd and Burchstead went over the many benefits of NHLTA, encouraged trustees to utilize the newly designed and updated web site, subscribe



to the LISTSERV® and attend other training offered by NHLTA including the annual conference. One trustee posed the question of why the conference has not been held farther north in the state. Ladd explained that it was held in recent years in North Conway and Waterville Valley and many trustees from the southern part of the state did not attend and the attendance from the North Country was less than hoped for.

After answering many questions, dialogue among the trustees was encouraging and they were urged to form a roundtable discussion group to be held several times a year. Overall the consensus was that this initial meeting was very productive.

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REMEMBERING CRAIG WARK

Bruce Cotter
Trustee Chair, Wiggin Memorial Library
NHLTA Director

Craig Wark, a long time trustee at the Wiggin Memorial Library in Stratham and supporter of libraries everywhere, passed away on July 29. He is survived by his wife Jean, three children, two grandchildren, and many friends.

I first met Craig in September of 2007 at a Board of Trustees meeting. He was 78 at the time, with twice the energy of people half his age. He was a passionate supporter of the library, and an energetic member of the library board. I can't think of a library function that he wasn't actively involved in. I particularly remember him at our book sales—hauling boxes of books around, handing out baskets so people could easily buy more books, or telling them about some book he had just read, usually by Clive Cussler or Archer Mayor, his favorite writers, because he was so sure they would like it too.

He was also one of those people who worked hard to see others recognized for their work. He spearheaded efforts that led to the Wiggin Memorial Library receiving the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association awards for library, library director and trustee of the year.

Craig was recognized in 2004 by NHLTA as the NH Library Trustee of the Year. He chaired our Board of Trustees for three terms, and was a member of the Board of Directors of NHLTA. When he reached the end of his terms as an elected trustee, the Wiggin Memorial Library board named him as their first and only Trustee Emeritus, a fitting recognition for his many years of service, and one that he took enormous pride in receiving.

When I think back on the time I knew Craig, I will remember the enthusiastic pleasure he took in being a trustee and his great pride in the library, and I will think of his love for Jean, and for the family that they built together. The NHLTA directors wear name tags that say on them *Library Ambassador*, and ultimately that's how I will remember him, as a tireless advocate and a friendly and active Ambassador for the Wiggin Memorial Library, and all libraries and their role in our society.

A friend wrote to me the other day about Craig—"If I had had half the energy he had, I would have been twice the trustee that I was," she said. All of us who knew him felt the same way. Craig was a pleasure to work with and he was an inspiration. He never let age or illness slow him down. No library ever had a better trustee than Craig Wark. We were fortunate to have his support, and I am thankful to have had the opportunity to know him and to work with him.

Lillian Edelmann, Chair of the NHLTA Education Committee, had this to say about Wark, "Craig was a NHLTA board member for about 15 years; he was a member of the Nominating Committee for several years, and a wonderful presenter at many orientation sessions. There was a time years ago when we served dinners at all of our workshops, and Craig was always there to help. Whatever was going on, Craig was there to help. He didn't have to be asked, he always knew help was needed. A wonderful guy, always the perfect well dressed, old fashioned gentleman, he will be greatly missed."



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

My Bookshelves

With the rise of innovative technology, libraries are changing. Even our sources of reading material are subject to change. Library users may search the Internet rather than turn to books for their information. Many book lovers are weighing the merits of e-Books as opposed to traditional books. I have been mulling this over myself.

Libraries and books have always been a mainstay of my life. My first memories of a library are of a small one room library in a little town in Connecticut. My brother and I would make a weekly 6 mile round trip on our bikes to get our books (usually 6 or 7 for each of us). I can still remember the placement of the books. Walk in; turn right for children's books, left for the adult books. Straight ahead was the librarian's desk. We would always engage in a friendly conversation while there. As the years went by, there were school and college libraries, other town libraries, and even private libraries. I knew libraries were a place where I could get wonderful books to read and obtain answers to many questions as well.

When I moved to Dublin, NH, one of the first things I did was get a library card. I loved the little library, crowded as it was with about 20 thousand books crammed into every available space. It has since been renovated and expanded and now includes a bank of computers and offers Wi-Fi and even Kindles. When my laptop is down I can log onto a library computer for my link to the world.

I still follow the traditional path for selecting books although I welcomed the opportunity to go into Overdrive and download audio books and transfer them to CDs. I resisted buying a Kindle when they were first introduced but I recently purchased an iPad and one of the first ways I used it was to download the Kindle App. I now have some e-Books in my iPad library. How exciting! And it is amazing—read a page, “tap” and the page turns, another “tap” another page. I also delight in sharing titles and authors with several other book aficionados via frequent emails labeled “my bookshelf.” My friend bought an iPad too, and we are now trying to figure out how to share our downloaded books. I know you can also borrow e-Books from libraries for a period of

up to three weeks. Many people love their Kindles and e-Readers; they find them interesting and convenient. Others claim they do not want to give up the feel of a physical book in their hands. I prefer having traditional books in my hands too and continue to check them out at the library. However, I personally think having a supply of unread books in any form, along with the many books I have already read, is like having money in the bank. It is there when you need it. Regardless of the ways by which I fill my bookshelves, the library continues to be a dominant beacon that leads me to books, DVDs, services, programs, and answers to questions.

In my capacity as President of the NHLTA, I have had the privilege of visiting many fine libraries and noting how much they have to offer. As the year progresses, I look forward to more opportunities to see how libraries are faring in this accelerating age of technology, and how library patrons and readers bridge the traditional and the new. There is a perception by some that libraries and books will become obsolete. I do not believe that for a minute. Libraries are meeting the new demands. Library directors find that they must help patrons with e-Readers and e-Books, audio books and computers. Trustees are drafting new policies to cover these innovations and reconfiguring space to fit everything in. All this in addition to what they are already doing. They are busier than ever.

As trustees, you are all committed to libraries and books and library technology. I would be very interested in knowing how your libraries are changing and about some of the choices that you and your library patrons are making. Please share your stories.

Adele Knight

Thank You

The NHLTA received a much appreciated donation in support of the 2012 Orientation Workshops. Our thanks to TD Bank for their contribution towards the education of our Library Trustees.

THE STATE OF DIGITAL MEDIA

David Hallenbeck
NHLTA Director
Chair, Technology Committee

This past June, I attended the Digital Summit, an excellent workshop presented by the New Hampshire Library Association (NHLA) for librarians and other interested people. As library content increasingly migrates from physical to digital formats, it is critical that libraries understand, plan for, and manage these migrations. There were many informative sessions and this is just a summary of one of them on the state of digital media from the perspectives of the American Library Association (ALA), publishers of content, and vendors, taken from my notes and slides provided by the speaker.

Dr. Alan Inouye, the Director of ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy and Program Manager of its Digital Content & Libraries Initiative, came in from Washington to describe the current state of this remarkable transition that is only in the early stages of its evolution as traditional players (authors, publishers, and distributors) respond or adapt to new roles brought about by the changing technologies and related services. This variety of responses by these players has brought about a heterogeneous environment in which libraries have to find their way in order to continue to provide current, relevant content to their patrons. E-books can be no longer just digital translations of printed works but can become interactive works, linking websites and video to the material in them. Authors and publishers, burnt by the Napster experience of free distribution of audio content without regard for copyright or provision of payment for the content, are petrified that the same could occur with digital media, hence their concern for digital rights management and limited use enforcement. Libraries themselves have been part of the publishing ecosystem for a long time and are increasingly becoming involved in content creation/publishing with the tremendous demand for quality information and the relatively short supply compared to the massive amounts of data on the Internet. It is into this sea of continued complexity and chaos that public libraries sail where its systems, technologies, and services are all changing and the most critical attribute is to be flexible. As all entities are experiencing profound change, there are the opportunities and challenges for libraries to redefine their roles and relationships.

Having provided a systems level overview of what is happening, Dr. Inouye proceeded to give some perspectives from individual players—publishers, distributors, authors, and libraries. He stressed that the environment should be looked at as an ecosystem of interdependent parts in which all sides need to better understand the other players.

As noted before, publishers are paranoid and perhaps rightly so, considering the Napster experience. They are concerned about short term sales, cybersecurity, and the possibility that well-stocked libraries could become an effective substitute for best sellers. Despite the fact that it costs less to produce e-Books, they feel pricing should be higher than print due to ease of turnover, lack of wear, lower processing costs, etc. They recognize the increasing role of libraries to facilitate the process of discoverability as bookstores disappear. They feel increasing competition from both self-publishing at the low end and Amazon at the high end.

Distributors are in an interesting position. While the rapid growth of e-Books means market opportunity it also means ease of entrance for competitors. They need to define what is their value added in the ecosystem. Their goal is to increase the number of titles available and ease in getting them and, in the process, make the publisher and library customers dependent upon them.

Authors like to eat. While they love libraries, love does not pay the bills. Unless they are famous, they have little power in dealing with publishers but feel that libraries do. They are also concerned about maintaining control of their works, as once a work is digitized it can theoretically go anywhere. They feel that an opportunity may exist to work jointly with libraries on common interests, and already there are some groups of authors doing this.


This brings us finally to the library. Libraries want basic access to e-Books, which is not always the case as some publishers won't sell to libraries, make only limited selections available, price them out of reach, or restrict their preservation. They want technical problems with e-Books solved, such as clunky interfaces, multiple incompatible formats and technologies. They are willing to consider alternative business models such as different terms of access or even ads but do not want to be taken advantage of. A mission of pub-

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ORIENTATION WORKSHOP

Last chance Oct 11

What does it take to be a trustee? What are your responsibilities? This orientation workshop will provide you with the knowledge and wisdom to fulfill your duties and handle the office of library trustee.

The last of a series of six sessions at five different locations in the state, the workshop will be held at the Local Government Center (LGC), 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord. Directions are available at <http://www.nhlgc.org/about/directions.asp>. Registration deadline is October 5. Contact Marcia Burchstead for more information: 356-8462 or email: m.burchstead@nhlta.org. Downloadable registration flyer on home page of NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org. 

REGIONAL TRUSTEE NETWORKING


Monadnock Area Trustees met September 13 at the Gay-Kimball Library in Troy. After a summer hiatus, this gathering was held in the evening to accommodate trustee work schedules. The group generally meets once a month at various libraries in the Monadnock (Western) part of the state. For more information contact Adele Knight, Dublin: 563-8937 or a.knight@nhlta.org.

Carroll County Trustee Roundtable met September 18 at the Moultonborough Library. This group meets twice a year. For more information contact Marcia Burchstead, Intervale, at 356-8462 or email m.burchstead@nhlta.org.

Greater Hooksett Networking group met September 5 at the Derry Library. There were twelve trustees present representing five libraries. It was an evening of lively discussion and much sharing of ideas on a range of topics from fundraising ideas, enhancing Friends' groups, to director evaluations.

Contact Elizabeth Ives, Derry, at 434-6539 or email her at mives@grolen.com for more information about the next gathering,

Souhegan Area Trustees generally meet quarterly with another gathering TBA in the coming months. This network covers a wide span of towns in the Souhegan area from Brookline to Greenfield. For more information contact Betsy Solon at e.solon@nhlta.org.

Dates, times and locations of Regional Trustee networking are posted on the LISTSERV® and the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org. 


TIPS FROM THE TRENCHES

Budgeting for Professional Development

Betsy Solon, NHLTA Treasurer

Neither election nor appointment to a public library board guarantees the critical skills and knowledge required to be a successful library trustee. In order to be good public servants and ambassadors for libraries, trustees must expand their vision and understanding through education and training. Likewise, it is important to provide opportunities for library staff to learn and grow. Here in New Hampshire we have two terrific organizations dedicated to education: the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association (NHLTA) and the New Hampshire Library Association (NHLA). We are also eligible for membership in the New England Library Association (NELA) and the American Library Association (ALA).

As your board prepares its library budget for 2013, please remember to invest in continuing education for both the trustee board and the library staff. Your library budget should contain a line item called "Professional Development." It is there that the expenses for association dues (at a minimum, NHLTA for trustees, NHLA for staff), any conference and workshop registration fees, mileage/travel reimbursement, and funding for other education events should be assigned. If they do not understand so already, you must make the case to your town how very important it is for the library board and the library staff to remain aware of new trends and best practices in the library world.

Remember, the NHLTA membership voted at the 2012 Annual Meeting to set dues for 2013-14 to \$30 per membership. Those dues will be payable by July 1, 2013. 

BROOKLINE PUBLIC LIBRARY... *then and now*

Loring Webster
NHLTA Director

Our librarians found some old, hand-written catalogs from 1878 containing by-laws and policies of the Library. The comparisons to today's library are interesting:

	1878	2012
Weekly hours open to the public:	4	42
Checkout limit for books:	1	unlimited
Minimum age to get a card:	10 years old	5 years old
Fines per day:	2 cents	5 cents
Loan period:	14 days	14 days

LIBRARY ACCESS AND LIBRARY POLICY

Guidelines for Trustees and Librarians

Lori Fisher

Director, Baker Free Library, Bow
2012 NHLA President

I had the great pleasure of attending my first Public Library Association conference this spring in Philadelphia, PA. While the whole conference experience was amazing, what has remained with me since then are three sessions that dealt with various aspects of library access and First Amendment rights. Specifically, all three sessions dealt with various library policies having to do with meeting rooms, bulletin boards, patron behavior, and unattended children.

Trustees and library directors need to think about a couple of things every time they attempt to draft or revise a policy that affects library access. First, the primary consideration when drafting library policy should be making certain that the policy does not violate the First Amendment. Trustees and staff should be very familiar with the wording of the First Amendment and the application of that amendment to the specific situations being discussed. Second, a familiarity with state and federal laws is very important. Checking with the American Library Association (ALA) Office of Intellectual Freedom would be a good place to start to find out if there is case law for specific issues (<http://www.ala.org/offices/oif>). Last, trustees and staff should always set aside personal beliefs and emotions when drafting, revising, or implementing a library policy.

In addition, the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom offers the following guidelines for drafting library policies that deal with library access:

1. Policies must be crafted so they can be applied objectively.
2. Policies must be enforced consistently.
3. Policies must be reasonable and related to library use.
4. Policies should provide for an appeal mechanism, even if that mechanism is informal.
5. All library policies, regulations, and procedures should attempt to balance competing interests, and avoid favoring the majority at the expense of individual rights, or allowing individual users' rights to interfere materially with the majority's rights to free, equal, and equitable access to library resources, services, and facilities.
6. Policies should avoid arbitrary distinctions between individuals or classes of users, and avoid targeting spe-

cific users or groups of users. They should not have the effect of denying or abridging a person's right to use library resources, services, or facilities based upon arbitrary distinctions such as origin, age, background, or viewpoint.

7. Once the library has policies and procedures in place, follow them exactly. Do not ignore library policy, and do not allow staff to ignore library policy.

Put simply, here's how to apply these guidelines for meeting room policies. The first consideration should be whether or not the library wants to have meeting rooms open to the public at all. This discussion is moot if the library does not open meeting rooms to the public! However, if meeting rooms are opened to the public, there can be no content restrictions for users. The library can have time, place, and manner restrictions if those restrictions are applied consistently to all. For example, it is not appropriate to single out a certain type of group (i.e., we do not allow political or religious groups to use the meeting rooms), and it is also not appropriate to deny meeting room access based on the content of the meeting (a group wants to have a Libertarian speaker for their lunch meeting).

The same guidelines also apply to public bulletin boards. First, decide whether the bulletin boards are open to public postings. If so, then the library can only restrict time, place, and manner—not content—of postings for those bulletin boards. For example, the library can specify that postings will only be allowed to remain on the board for two weeks, that the size of the posting must be smaller than 11" x 17", and that the library reserves the right to take down materials that exceed the size restriction before the two week limit is complete. The library cannot specify that they will deny posting ability to groups based on their beliefs, such as political groups or religious groups.

For more information on notable court opinions on library access, download this pdf handout from one of the 2012 PLA session speakers:

http://s4.goeshow.com/pla/annual/2012/client_uploads/handouts/PLAAccessHandout2012.pdf

If you are interested in how to deal with religious group access in public libraries, the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom has put out a great Q & A document:

<http://www.ala.org/offices/oif/statementspols/otherpolicies/religionqanda>



NHLTA DIRECTORS PROFILE: KATHY MESERVE

Kathy Meserve joined the board of directors of the NH Library Trustees Association in 2011 and at once became an active and integral member. She serves as secretary of the education committee (planning the annual conference, orientation and workshops), coordinator of library visits, and is liaison to the NH Library Association.

Meserve received her BSN in Nursing from Georgetown University, Washington D.C. and later a MSN in Nursing from Boston College. Now retired, during her career as a registered nurse she was employed in a number of clinical areas, staff and administrative roles.

Seven years ago she moved to Newton, NH. Prior to coming to New Hampshire she and her family lived in Ohio, Washington and Boston, Melrose and Topsfield, MA.

When asked how she came to serve on the NHLTA board she replied, "Actually, I wasn't looking to join the board of NHLTA. Loring Webster (vice-president and chair of the Governance Committee) contacted me and asked me. I thought it would be a good opportunity to learn more about public libraries throughout the state, what their concerns are, and help to advocate for them in whatever way I can. Libraries serve an important role in the community and that role is being challenged. We need more voices to speak for the value of public libraries."

"Education is an important function of the NHLTA, if we are to be effective as trustees. I would like to help in that effort, in whatever way I can," she continued.

After moving to Newton she initially joined the Friends of the Gale Library and eventually became secretary, treasurer and then president. She organized book sales and other fundraisers. Originally serving as an alternate trustee for three years she was subsequently elected a trustee in 2011.

"During these years I have attended many NHLTA functions, in order to educate myself on the role of the library trustee and the RSAs pertaining to libraries. As a member of the NHLTA board, I believe that libraries are a vital part of our communities and hope that I can help to bring continued educational resources to the state's library trustees," she said.

"I have always loved books, been an avid reader, and supported my local library, wherever that may be. When our children were in elementary school, I was the volunteer school librarian, as we did not have a paid librarian on staff. As such, I was responsible for ordering books, maintaining

books and circulation records, supervising the read aloud program and class visits," she added.

Asked about her role as liaison between NHLTA and the New Hampshire Library Association she said, "NHLTA is a professional organization of library personnel, trustees, and library supporters...It is the organization that many library directors belong to, and it works closely with the NH State Library Director Michael York." (*NHLibrarians.org*)



In addition to her volunteer efforts at the Gale Library she has served her community as vice-president of the Newton Historical Society, chairperson for the Fall Social, treasurer of the school PTO for four years and a member of other civic organizations.

NHLTA is appreciative of the expertise and experience Meserve brings to the board.

— Marcia Burchstead
Editor



FAQ ABOUT TERM LIMITS

QUESTION: Can the board of trustees adopt a bylaw that limits the number of terms a trustee may serve?

ANSWER: No, the statutes do not authorize a library board to limit terms. Bylaws may only govern a library board's "own transaction of business" and "the government of the library"
RSA 202-A:11. Any town having a public library shall...elect a board of library trustees consisting of any odd number of persons...Such trustees shall serve staggered 3-year terms or until their successors are elected and qualified ...
RSA 202-A:6

Complete verbiage of each RSA cited above is available at:
www.gencourt.state.nh.us




One issue was communication via email. The group shared that many trustees do not utilize email so it was suggested they go to their library and have library staff set them up with an account and how to access it. It was explained that NHLTA does many mailings each year and the cost for postage, printing and processing increases annually.

There were several trustees who were unable to attend due to other commitments but expressed interest in seeing this scheduled. A short time later another trustee registered for the Lancaster orientation and when asked why she didn't come to the open house her response was she knew nothing about it. It was advertised in the last newsletter, on the web site and by way of email blasts. It would appear NHLTA needs to address how to get trustees to keep abreast of meetings, training and communications.


NHLTA wishes to express their thanks to Weeks Memorial Library and director Barbara Robarts for allowing us to schedule this event at their venue.

— Marcia Burchstead
Editor

Future NHLTA Open Houses scheduled this Fall will be in Claremont, Hampton, and Rochester with more being planned for next Spring. Check the calendar on the back page of the newsletter and the Library News/Calendar page of the NHLTA website at www.nhlta.org for dates, times, and locations. 

The State of Digital Media continued from page 4

lic libraries to consistently provide the highest quality of information to its patrons at the lowest cost remains constant, regardless of changing technologies.

This ecosystem of libraries, publishers, distributors, and authors is under constant and unpredictable change, change precipitated by both technological and economic forces. Organizations such as the ALA and the New Hampshire State Library are monitoring and trying to influence these changes through discussions with publishers and distributors, developing favorable business models, writing position pieces to make the public and library aware of what is going on, developing an in-depth understanding of the technologies involved, and looking at the longer-term implications of such things as richer e-Books and digital content, content production in libraries, digitization, archiving and preservation. We will try to keep you informed as Trustees about what we learn. Your ideas and thoughts are welcome. 

POLICIES EVERY LIBRARY SHOULD HAVE

Thank you to the Jaffrey Public Library for sharing their Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy. This policy is a sample and should be tailored to fit your library.

Reconsideration of Library Materials

It is the belief of the Library that censorship is a purely individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject material of which one does not approve; one can not exercise this right to restrict the freedom of others.


1. Requests for removal of books from the open shelves, for reconsideration of the placement and/or handling of materials, for alteration of displays or for the cancellation or alteration of a program must be written and signed prior to the consideration of the Board of Trustees. A Request for Reconsideration form is available at the circulation desk. (sample attached).

2. The objection will be reviewed by the Trustees in open session at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

3. The objection will be reviewed to determine if the service in question conforms to this policy and others the library has currently adopted.

4. During reconsideration, no changes will be made to the service as presented. Materials challenged will remain in circulation, programs will continue as scheduled, and displays and exhibits will remain intact.


5. A written response to the objection will be made within 30 days of the filing.

With permission from the Jaffrey Public Library Board of Trustees, the Policy and the Request for Reconsideration Form are both available for download on the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org. 

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

Do you have a great idea for an article for New Hampshire LIBRARY TRUSTEE, the newsletter of the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association?

We encourage you to submit articles and/or photos to us for consideration. Topics could include events, programs that you have initiated, announcements or a recent success.

The copy deadline for the next issue is December 5, 2012. Please e-mail all submissions and inquiries to Adele Knight: a.knight@nhlta.org or Marcia Burchstead: m.burchstead@nhlta.org. 

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

Karen Sheehan Lord
Trustee, Manchester City Library
NHLTA Director

Referred to as “the jewel in the crown” of the Queen City, the Carpenter Memorial Library is a stunning Italian Renaissance Revival style structure built between 1912 and 1914 at a cost of \$350,000. These funds were given by Frank P. Carpenter to the city of Manchester specifically for a new library to honor his deceased wife, Eleanora Blood Carpenter. It was one of the first libraries in the state with a designated children’s room.

The original library was created in 1854 by Mayor Smyth when he signed a charter with the existing private Athenaeum. When the new library opened, 74,000 books were moved in wooden crates from the old location on Franklin Street to the Pine Street building. Some of these



wooden crates are still housed in the attic. In 1981 the West Community Branch Library was started and housed in a historic firehouse built in 1874.

Extensive renovations have occurred over the years including the recent installation of a new HVAC system, a modernization of the existing auditorium and professional cleaning of the exterior granite and marble. In 2007 the Carpenter Memorial Library won a NH Preservation Alliance award as well as an award from the Manchester Historic Association. Library Director Denise van Zanten was named one of two Directors of the Year by the NHLTA in 2011.

The library currently has 40,000 card holders and houses just under 220,000 volumes in the main building and 30,000 in the West Community Branch Library. Its NH History Room is well used by historians and genealogists alike. In the past 12 months patrons have borrowed more than 537,000 items. Currently 42 staff members assist patrons and plan

and supervise numerous library programs open to the public which are very well attended. They also provide an outreach Home Services program and school visits. Manchester’s growing immigrant and refugee population, who previously never had a public library, get extensive assistance with library cards, accessing information and using computers. Public use and demand of computers is very heavy. Both buildings have numerous computers and are wired for Wi-Fi access. Our library web site allows patrons to search for materials and renew and reserve books on-line as well as access downloadable audio books and e-Books. The ground floor children’s room buzzes with activity throughout the year, led by our amazing Children’s Librarian, Karyn Isleb, who has created many new programs. She also does story times at the Currier Museum of Art, local churches and the Mall of NH. Our library buildings are designated as cooling and heating stations for our city and after major storms it is usually “standing room only”.

Reduced funding from the local tax base and staff shortages continue to be a challenge as we maintain two buildings open to the public for a total of 83 hours per week. Staff are creative in how they manage their workloads but the library has had to cut hours in order to maintain service. Supplemental funds are provided through the Library Foundation fundraisers and periodic book sales. For more information about our library van Zanten extends an invitation to “visit us in person or online at www.manchesterlibrary.org”.



FISKE FREE LIBRARY, CLAREMONT

Marty Davis
Trustee Chair, Fiske Free Library
NHLTA Director

“The new library is really a gem. The building (is) pleasing in design and finish...the interior of this little temple is indeed beautiful.” So wrote the National Eagle newspaper (Claremont) on Saturday, November 5, 1904. That new gem continues to this day to be a gem in a city which is fortunate in its inventory of fine buildings of that era. This building, a Carnegie library, is the third and current location of Claremont’s Fiske Free Library.

In 1873, native resident and long-time merchant Samuel P. Fiske, did “give, grant, and convey” to the town of Claremont two thousand volumes of books for the purpose of establishing a library for the town’s inhabitants. He subsequently bequeathed financial contributions for the purchase of books.

The books were housed in rooms in the upper story of the Stevens High School Building for five years, and in 1878 were moved to the newly acquired and renovated Bailey Building. They remained there until 1904 when they were moved to the current Carnegie building.



Claremont’s Fiske Free Library continues to be the center of learning and literature for many residents. The library currently has a full-time director and three full-time employees to direct research, circulation, and the children’s library. The part-time staff numbers were cut in last year’s city budget along with other positions in the city, leaving the staff with an abundance of materials and information to process.

Since Claremont has a city form of government, the Fiske Free Library operates as directed by the City’s library

ordinance. Under that ordinance, the library is funded by the city and managed by the City Manager and the Librarian. The Board of Trustees’ primary responsibilities are to advise the city manager by recommending capital improvements and policy regarding the use and management of the library.

The library currently serves approximately 3,000 card-holding patrons and has an annual circulation of about 115,000 volumes of books, audio CDs, and DVD discs.




Patrons also have access to Wi-Fi, genealogical research materials using microfilm and microfiche, and state-sponsored downloads of audio books and e-Books.

The current inventory contains approximately 65,000 books, CDs and DVDs.

The library’s Gilmore Room is used throughout the year for children’s and adult programs, and is used by the public for many activities including home-schooling presentations, Girl Scout and 4-H meetings, summer reading programs, story-telling, music programs, private seminars, and real estate closings. For larger gatherings, we are fortunate to be able to use the Community Room of the Trinity Episcopal Church next door.

During our August program, we were treated to a two-hour visit with Atticus, and with Tom Ryan who authored the story of courage and inspiration entitled *Following Atticus*. In September, Moultonborough author Jane Rice discussed her book *Bob Fogg and New Hampshire’s Golden Age of Aviation: Flying Over Winnepesaukee and Beyond*.

We are proud of our library and our talented, committed, and resourceful staff. 

WIGGIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY!

Bruce Cotter
Trustee Chair, Wiggin Memorial Library
NHLTA Director

The Wiggin Memorial Library in Stratham had its 100th birthday party on July 14th, and held a celebration for its patrons. The library was built in 1912 with funds left in the will of Emma B. Wiggin in memory of her husband, George A. Wiggin.

A recent article in the Exeter News-Letter recorded, “The library was designed by noted Boston architect C. Howard Walker, who also designed buildings for the 1898 and 1904 World’s Fairs; it was built in 1911 by noted Portsmouth contractor Sidney S. Trueman, according to the state Division of Historical Resources.

“The stone building, which sits on the corner of Portsmouth Avenue and Winnicut Road, is a turn-of-the-century example of the “eclectic” movement, combining elements of Georgian, Gothic, Classical Revival and Shingle styles into a cohesive and elegant building.”


The library has been through many changes over the 100 years of its existence, and is no longer in the original library building, which is now the home of the Stratham Historical Society and recently named a New Hampshire historic landmark. In the 1970s the library outgrew the original building and moved into the town municipal building. Over the past four years the municipal center building has been renovated, providing over 6,000 additional square feet to the library, and effectively doubling its size.

“The library has definitely changed over time; who knew that after 100 years it would include online e-Books, DVDs and magazines,” said Bruce Cotter, chairman of the Library Trustees. “But there have been libraries of one kind or another in Stratham since 1793. It is still a community center and a place for people to go for entertainment and information. The people of Stratham love it and support it and we

are grateful to the town and all the volunteers for the hard work they put into it.”

Well over 200 adults and children attended the celebration, which included an ice cream social as well as deli sandwiches and salad, storyteller Odds Bodkin, musician Gary Sredzienski, face painting, balloons, historical exhibits, and tours of the original and new library buildings. In addition, the Leftist Marching Band marched to and through the library, serenading the attendees.

It was important to Library Director Lesley Kimball that the event be free to the town. “The people of Stratham have given us a tremendous amount of support and we wanted to say thank you for that,” she said. So the Board of Trustees organized a wine raffle that raised enough funds to cover the cost of the entire event.

In an editorial recognizing the celebration, the Exeter News-Letter said, “While it is right and good to celebrate 100 years of history, Stratham residents also have plenty of reasons to celebrate the library of today. Recently renovated and expanded, it truly is an inviting community center dedicated to feeding the intellectual needs of all community members.In short, the library is a treasure and we have no doubt that 100 years hence future generations of Stratham residents will look back with pride on all that the library and its staff are doing for the community of today.” 

FAQ ABOUT MEETING MINUTES

QUESTION: How soon do the minutes need to be published?

ANSWER: Within 5 business days. **RSA 91-A:2**

QUESTION: Where do the minutes need to be kept?

ANSWER: At the library. **RSA 91-A:4**

QUESTION: How long do we need to keep the minutes?

ANSWER: Permanently. **RSA 33-A:3-a**

Complete verbiage of each RSA cited above is available at: www.gencourt.state.nh.us 

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CALENDAR 2012

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|--------|----------------|--|
| Oct 3 | 10 a.m. | NHLTA Board of Directors meeting • LGC (Local Government Center)
25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord |
| Oct 11 | 10 a.m.–1 p.m. | Trustee Orientation Workshop • LGC (Local Government Center)
25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord |
| Oct 17 | 6 p.m.–8 p.m. | Claremont Regional Open House • Fiske Free Library
108 Broad Street, Claremont |
| Oct 17 | 6 p.m.–8 p.m. | Hampton Regional Open House • Lane Memorial Library
2 Academy Avenue, Hampton |
| Oct 25 | 6 p.m.–8 p.m. | Rochester Regional Open House • Rochester Public Library
65 South Main Street, Rochester |
| Nov 7 | 10 a.m. | NHLTA Board of Directors meeting • LGC (Local Government Center)
25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord |
| Dec 5 | 10 a.m. | NHLTA Board of Directors meeting • LGC (Local Government Center)
25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord |