

# New Hampshire LIBRARY TRUSTEE



Volume 28 number 2  
SUMMER 2012

*The Newsletter of the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association*

## 2012 ANNUAL CONFERENCE *A Huge Success!*

Lil Edelmann  
Chair, Education Committee

I feel sorry for anyone who was not present at this year's conference. You missed the biggest, most exciting, fabulous extravaganza of conferences ever. As the clock began ticking toward 7:30, in came the incredible number (the 300 person capacity was sold out) of trustees, directors and friends, all ready to absorb the wealth of information that was being offered.

Registrations went perfectly. Alphabetically arranged, well filled folders were distributed with a smile. In fact, the entire registration area was the best, happiest site I've seen in all of my years of conferences. Everything was going like clockwork. The time and effort put into developing this conference paid off in huge registrations and smiles. Everyone involved in the development of this conference knew exactly what was expected of them and they produced.

Our keynote speaker, Jennifer Pearson, is a very strong advocate for libraries. She is a firm believer that the library is a cornerstone of American democracy. She held her audience breathless. Each and every one of the other presenters was also received with enthusiasm. I ask, where else could

*continued on page 5*



Lil Edelmann and Terry Knowles—2012 Annual Conference

## NHLTA OPEN HOUSE COMING SOON TO A LIBRARY NEAR YOU!

NHLTA is back on the road again and would like to get to know you!

In an effort to meet all our association members, the board of directors has initiated an outreach program of Open Houses at libraries around the state. The events will be hosted by members of the NHLTA Board of Directors. Refreshments will be served and lively conversations will be offered. This is a great opportunity to meet the directors you have elected to lead the NHLTA. It is a great opportunity to ask questions, make suggestions, and network with your associates and fellow trustees from neighboring libraries.

The locations for the Open Houses have been selected in the approximate center of eleven regional areas, similar to the co-op regions. The invitation is open to all trustees who are within a comfortable driving radius and are interested in this networking opportunity.

Details will be announced during the coming months on the NHLTA website: [www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org) and on the NHLTA LISTSERV: [nhlta-l@maillist2.nh.gov](mailto:nhlta-l@maillist2.nh.gov). (To subscribe go to: <http://maillist2.nh.gov/mailman/listinfo/nhlta-l>)

Open Houses are currently scheduled for the following dates and locations:

**Weeks Memorial Library**, 128 Main St, Lancaster, Wednesday July 25 from 6:30–8:00 pm

**Joseph Patch Library**, Main St, 320 NH Route 25, Warren, Thursday September 20 from 6–8 pm

**Lane Memorial Library**, 2 Academy Ave, Hampton, Wednesday October 17 from 6–8 pm

Please join us. We look forward to getting to know you. 

### *Thank You*

The NHLTA received two very much appreciated donations in support of the 2012 Annual Conference. Thanks to TD Bank for their contribution of \$500 and to another supporter who gave \$200, but wished to remain anonymous.

## ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year, the NHLTA presents awards to individuals or groups who have given exemplary library service to their community. The information is also available on the NHLTA website [www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org).

Awards are for the following categories:

Library of the Year

Lillian Edelmann Trustee of the Year

Library Director of the Year

Special Library Service Contribution Award

Dorothy M. Little Award \*

Sue Palmatier Award for Outstanding Support by a  
“Friends of the Library” Group

The deadline for submitting nominations is July 31, 2012. Please mail applications to Carol Snelling, P.O. Box 726, Holderness, NH 03245.

\* **The Dorothy M. Little Award** is given to someone who has promoted library excellence in their community and has demonstrated sustained, extraordinary public library advocacy and activism on a regional and state level.

The award was initiated to honor Dorothy M. Little, who was affectionately known throughout New Hampshire as “Mrs. Library”. She served as the first librarian of the Hampton schools and then became Librarian of the Supervisory Union 21 Instructional Center until she retired in 1978. From 1966 until 1998, Mrs. Little was a Lane Memorial Library Trustee and chair of the board for seven years. She was an active member of the Friends of the Library, a member of the Seacoast Librarians and Media Specialists, and for over ten years held various offices in the NHLTA including president from 1982-1984. The Dorothy M. Little

Memorial Room in the Lane Memorial Library in Hampton was established in August of 1990.

Previous recipients of the award include: Dorothy Holden, Terry Knowles, John Barrett and Lillian Edelmann.




## HOLLIS SOCIAL LIBRARY

Loring Webster, NHLTA Director

The Hollis Social Library is a charming structure in the center of Monument Square and is reminiscent of a Greek temple with its domed roof and columned entrance. The library was enhanced with a fairly recent addition, and although they are space limited at 5,500 square feet they have organized their spaces in a most pleasing and efficient way.

With a population of 7,600, a patron base of 5,200, and a collection of 40,000, they boast a truly remarkable circulation of almost 100,000 items. The children’s room is charming, with wonderful wall art, and loads of stuffed animals and activity posters to engage young minds as they come for group reading programs. Not to be outdone, the young adult’s room has been decorated by the YAs to their taste and interest, and is a favorite after-school hangout.

One of their innovative ideas for beating the winter blahs was a puzzle swap, prominently featured in the central room next to the circulation desk where patrons could exchange puzzles without sign-out for at-home family entertainment.

The Hollis Social Library is certainly worth a stop when you’re in the area. 

**More photos of the 2012 Annual Conference  
on the NHLTA website: [www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org)**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Serving as president of the NHLTA this past year has been a challenging and exciting experience. Working with a very talented and conscientious Board of Directors, that strives diligently to enhance our operations and better serve trustees, has been a real pleasure. And, it is reassuring to know that there are so many dedicated and committed trustees throughout the state. I look forward to another year of working with you all to strengthen our library community.

As we move forward, advocacy is one of the key words. For those of you who attended the conference and heard keynote speaker Jennifer Pearson give a very convincing presentation about advocacy you realize just how important advocating for libraries can be. As a matter of fact, the NHLTA directors believe that advocacy is so important that it will be the focus of our annual retreat in October. We must take advantage of every opportunity to speak out and speak for our libraries. We must let everyone know what our libraries bring to the community. It *will* make a difference.

Networking is another key word to remember. It is said that there is strength in numbers and it is true. Seek out your neighboring trustees, communicate, share, and learn from each other at regional gatherings. Monadnock, Souhegan, Carroll County and Hooksett area trustees have already established regional groups and find them very beneficial. The NHLTA is planning a series of Regional Open House

gatherings in other parts of the state to introduce the concept. Dates have already been set in Warren, Hampton and Lancaster. See the article on page 1 and the calendar on the back page. We will notify you of other sites and dates soon.

David Hallenbach (technology) and Connie Kirwin (communication) have been hard at work developing our *new* web site. It is now *on line* with recent news, photos of libraries, resources, calendar of events and a wealth of other information. Annual Conference speakers provided the NHLTA with PDFs of their PowerPoint presentations. You can access them on the new website [www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org).

One of the most satisfying undertakings of our board this past year was to address some challenging legislative issues and enlist your support. For example, your response to Save the Vans was overwhelming and successful. The NHLTA Legislative Committee will continue to monitor legislation and plans to join forces with other groups who are also interested in advocating for important library issues. We will keep you posted.

The NHLTA is reaching out to as many trustees as possible with its offering of six Orientation workshops. These orientations are invaluable for new trustees but seasoned trustees find them helpful as well. Orientations will be held in Lancaster, Concord (2), Moultonborough, Newport and Jackson. Note the schedule on the back page calendar of this newsletter. An informational flyer will be posted on the website ([www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org)) and also mailed out in July.

Evaluations coming in from the Conference have been so positive that Education Committee chair, Lil Edelman, is absolutely beaming and jumping with joy. Lil and her committee are already planning next year's conference which will be held at SERESC on May 20, 2013.

As always, your input, questions and concerns about happenings in the library trustee community are always welcome.

Sincerely,  
Adele Knight, President



NHLTA Directors Sally Jones and Kathy Meserve at registration table – May 21, 2012 Annual Conference

**Quote of the Month**  
Provided by Robert Brooks, Trustee  
Bedford Public Library  
“The past is History, the Future is a Mystery, this moment is a Gift—that’s why it’s called the Present.”  
Unknown

## MINOT-SLEEPER LIBRARY, BRISTOL

Lucille Keegan, Trustee  
Minot-Sleeper Library, Bristol

March 17, 2012 turned out to be a very important day in the life of the Minot-Sleeper Library in Bristol NH. The voters were once again being asked to vote for an addition to the library. This was the third year in a row.


Portions of an article from the Laconia Citizen are quoted below.

“Library trustees have been looking for more space almost since the library opened in 1886.” In reviewing the trustee’s reports from 1886 forward, Barbara Greenwood, a longtime Minot-Sleeper Library trustee, discovered that, after only 20 years of operation, the trustees were finding the small, brick library founded by Josiah Minot and S.S. Sleeper was in need of more space. “In the near future,” the trustees wrote in 1905, “the necessary enlargement of the library will become a problem for serious consideration.”

The trustees’ 1906 report repeated the warning: “It is becoming more and more apparent each year that something must be done in the near future to enlarge the capacity of the library.” And, in 1908, they wrote, “The limited quarters of this library are becoming more and more apparent each year. Nearly every available foot of space has been utilized and the question of enlarged accommodations must soon come up for the voters of the town to consider.”

Repeating the refrain in 1909, the trustees observed, “Probably the true solution of this question would be to build in the rear of the present structure a connecting main building for the circulating department and as a museum, using the present structure as a reading room and for the reference books. This is an important subject for consideration of all interested in the welfare of the library.”

As the 1915 trustees’ report stated, “The original donors who so kindly gave the building and a portion of the books undoubtedly thought they had provided ample space for many years, but if they could have realized how rapidly the space would be filled, they would surely have provided a larger building.”

Finally the voters of Bristol have approved the funds for an addition to be built this year. The plan compliments the current building and will provide space for a children’s room which has been very much needed. This addition will also allow for more computers for public use as well as space for books and tables for reading and studying. The current building will be used as a public meeting room and house the extensive historical selections for research. 

## GALE LIBRARY, NEWTON


Kathy Meserve, NHLTA Director

The Gale Public Library was founded in 1892 and was located first in the Newton Town Hall, then in a former one-room schoolhouse. It was named after members of the Gale Family, who donated money to the library. In 1978, the library moved into a former elementary school that was built in 1900, where it currently resides.

Serving a population of around 4,500, the library has a collection of 28,800 items and an annual circulation of over 28,000 items. Our Friends of the Library group is a small but faithful group of women who raise money and support library activities, such as our American Girl Doll Tea and our annual Halloween Party.

The Gale Library offers a multitude of events to encourage all age groups to visit the library. Our older members enjoy the Wednesday evening cribbage night. For nearly 10 years, this group of senior citizens has gathered to socialize and to hone their card-playing skills.

One of our most popular programs for the younger generation is the Read with Jasmine program. Children love to read to Jasmine, a certified R.E.A.D. therapy dog.


The library also offers a story hour, two adult book clubs, and several other seasonal reading programs for children and adults throughout the year. Arts and crafts, movies, Wii, and a special teen corner also contribute to making the Gale Library a center of community activity. 

## SPONSOR A BOOK

Loring Webster, NHLTA Director

Did you ever wish you had been the first to see a new book by your favorite author? Have you wished that you could buy a book at library discount prices? Well you can do both, and donate to your library, all at the same time!

The Brookline Public Library has a long-established sponsorship program whereby you can sponsor your favorite author, pay library rates, and be the first in line to read the very latest works. Does it get any better than that for avid readers? Oh, and did I mention that you will be making a tax-free donation to one of your favorite causes and helping to keep library budget costs down? Let’s see—that’s win, win, win and Win!

If your library doesn’t have a sponsorship program, what better time to start one? If you have more than one favorite author, you can sponsor two or more. I’m sure that your librarian will be very happy to accommodate you. 


## ORIENTATION WORKSHOPS

*What does it take to be a trustee?*

*What are your responsibilities?*

NHLTA is offering six Orientation Workshops at five locations in the state: Lancaster, Concord, Jackson, Newport, and Moultonborough, in September and October.

Areas of focus to be covered will include trustee job description, essential responsibilities, and a review of NH laws that govern libraries. Trustee guidelines and best practices include topics such as working as a team with the Library Director, conducting effective meetings, writing an agenda, and recording minutes. Also of importance in these difficult economic times is advice on advocating for your library and working with your Friends of the Library group.


This workshop will provide you with the knowledge and wisdom to fulfill your duties and handle the office of trustee. An informational flyer will be mailed in July and posted on the NHLTA website: [www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org). 

**NHLTA Annual Conference** continued from page 1



you ever have gone to have such an array of presentations on subjects that are so necessary for your knowledge of the governance of your library? We were grateful to have two presenters who travelled far to fulfill our needs. Our keynote speaker, Jennifer Pearson, came from Ohio and Susan Henry came from Florida. The other eleven presenters were from our own state.

Parking was a cinch, the food was wonderful, the technology involved was beyond compare and even the restrooms were easy to find. As our attendees were exiting for the day, there were only smiles and compliments as to how great the conference was. Happy, happy people!

Now the question is, how can we ever develop anything bigger and better than this last event? Easy! We have the best Education Committee ever organized, especially with volunteers like Christie Sarles, Marie Harris and Elizabeth Ives. Next year's conference will be huge, fabulous and exciting. Count on it!! Register early! 

## GLOBAL OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

*The Rothschild's Botswana Library Project*

**September 11 – Slide Presentation**

**with Victoria Lang, Director, Holderness Library**

Robert and Sara Rothschild have established a family foundation that, in collaboration with the Botswana government, is building libraries in villages throughout the country. In partnership with the Botswana National Library Service and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which is providing computers and computer training to each library, the Rothschild's goal is to build twenty libraries within the next ten years. The eighth library was opened in November 2011 and more are in the planning and construction phases.

Victoria Lang, director of the Holderness Library, met the Rothschilds—local patrons who live in Holderness. The fascinating stories emanating from the Bob and Sara about their Botswana project were more than enticing to Victoria. She listened to the stories of parents walking with children of all ages for miles over several days and sleeping at night on the ground to get to the site of this new building being created just for them. She heard that it was beyond belief when parents learned that their children had, for the first time in their lives, a place to learn and an opportunity to have a future with knowledge learned at that library.

When Victoria realized what was at stake, she volunteered to become a part of this project. She has been working on organizing an exchange of librarians between the two countries. Victoria recently hosted a visit from the Deputy Director of the Botswana National Library Service, who visited the Holderness Library and many other libraries in New Hampshire.

In March of 2012 Victoria visited Botswana. She is the first and only Library Director from the state of New Hampshire to undertake this volunteer position in Africa. Her slide presentation of this project and her visit will hold you spellbound and, I am sure, will lead to countless questions after the final slide has been shown.

The presentation of Victoria's program will be at the Manchester City Library at 405 Pine Street on Tuesday, September 11. More details will be forthcoming on the NHLTA website: [www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org) and on the NHLTA LISTSERV: [nhlta-l@maillist2.nh.gov](mailto:nhlta-l@maillist2.nh.gov). (To subscribe go to: <http://maillist2.nh.gov/mailman/listinfo/nhlta-l> ).

— Lillian Edelmann  
NHLTA Director

## POLICY OF THE MONTH

### UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY

Dublin Public Library  
Adopted October 14, 2009

Parents should not view the library as an alternative to daycare. The Library in no way assumes any responsibility for any child left unattended in the Library. For the safety and protection of all patrons, the Dublin Public Library has developed the following policy.


- All children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult or responsible caregiver.
- Unattended youth, aged 10 and up, are welcome to use the library as long as their behavior is acceptable.
- Parents should be advised that if their children misbehave they will be told to leave the library.
- Parents should realize that in their absence they are still legally responsible for their children's behavior.
- Library staff shall not be placed in the position of supervising children except when the children are in scheduled library programs. Parents or caregivers of children under 10 shall remain in the library while the program is in progress.
- Parents or caregivers of unattended children aged 10 and up must arrive at the library to pick up their children fifteen minutes prior to closing time on any day the library is open.
- If children are in the library without an adult at closing time, staff will attempt to locate the parent or caregiver. If the parent or caregiver can't be located, the police will be contacted to pick up the child. Two library staff, not custodial, members will stay with the child until the parent or police arrive. If the parents arrive before the police arrive, the police shall be notified. Under no circumstances is a staff member ever to drive any patron home, child or adult.

*Thank you to the Dublin Public Library for sharing their policy.*

This policy is a sample and should be tailored to fit your library. Other Unattended Children policies can be referenced on the following websites:

NHLTA: [www.nhlta.org](http://www.nhlta.org)

NH State Library: <http://www.nh.gov/nhsl/lts/index.html>

Stratham Public/Wiggin Memorial Library: [http://library.strathamnh.gov/Pages/StrathamLibrary\\_Info/policies](http://library.strathamnh.gov/Pages/StrathamLibrary_Info/policies). 

## REGIONAL TRUSTEE NETWORKING

### **Souhegan Area Trustees**

Betsy Solon

On the evening of April 5, Greenfield Trustees Jami Bascom and Bruce Dodge led the group on a tour of their library facilities. One of the best parts of these regional meetings is getting to visit other libraries and seeing how similar, and yet unique, each organization is.

Since we are an informal group without set agendas, our discussions are usually very timely and specific to the needs of attendees. At this meeting, topics ranged from library budgets to library security. Folks also shared their experiences with alternate trustees and the hiring of bookkeepers to handle library finances. As a result of the recent NH legislation issues, we also agreed that along with building relationships with other town officials, library trustees should also get to know their State Representatives and be willing to discuss library-related bills and legislation.

The next quarterly Souhegan Area Trustees meeting will be held in the Fall (date and location to be announced).

### **Carroll County Trustees**

Marcia Burchstead

The Carroll County Roundtable meets twice a year. The next gathering will be held on Tuesday September 18, from 6–8:00 pm at the Moultonborough library.

### **Hooksett Area Trustees**

Connie Owen, Trustee

Rodgers Memorial Library, Hudson

On June 6, twelve trustees representing six communities—Hooksett, Auburn, Derry, Chester, Peterborough and Hudson—met at the Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson for lively discussions, sharing information and networking.

Topics dealt with staff turnover, recruitment and hiring, effective marketing strategies, sharing some techniques including social networking like Facebook, off-site library participation in local happenings like Farmers Markets, circulating e-readers and familiarizing patrons with new digital and electronic devices, volunteer policies with emphasis on policies relating to the under 18-year old volunteers; director and staff performance evaluations, and ideas for scheduling policy reviews and revisions.

The next Regional Trustee gathering will be held September 5th at the DerryLibrary. Contact Trustee, Elizabeth Ives.

### **Monadnock Area Trustees**

Adele Knight

The area trustees will be taking a summer hiatus and will meet in September (date and location to be announced).

# NHLTA ELECTS NEW MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marcia Burchstead

During the business meeting at the recent New Hampshire Library Trustee Association's conference three highly qualified individuals were elected to fill vacancies on the board of directors. They each bring expertise, educational and employment skills in different areas, and complement the existing board of directors.

Marty Davis of Claremont has served as a trustee at the Fiske Free Library for over four years and is currently chair of the board. A graduate of Dartmouth College with a major in Geography and Regional Planning he has been employed since 1986 at Domus, Inc., a design-build residential construction firm located in Hanover. He served in the Vermont Air National Guard and attained the rank of First Lieutenant, Chief of Security.

He also serves on the Claremont HUD-Funded City Center Evaluation Project Steering Committee. The project is managed by the Claremont Planning Office. He is an avid gardener and provides for and maintains the flower garden at the Fiske Free Library.

Susan Gaudiello has served for ten years as a trustee of the Barrington Public Library, five of them as president. She holds a B.A. from Mount Holyoke College with a M.Ed. and MBA from the University of New Hampshire. Her areas of strength are in board development and strategic planning. She was the CEO of Home Care Association of New Hampshire from 1992–2011 as well as director of South Shore Elder Services and Bristol Elder Services in Massachusetts.

Additionally she was elected to the Select Board of the Town of Barrington and is a board member of the Rochester District Visiting Nurse Association.


Karen Sheehan Lord has been a trustee of the Manchester City Library since 1991 performing the duties of secretary and also as a representative on the personnel committee. She received a B.A. in Studio Art from the Connecticut

College for Women and later a M.Ed from Keene State College in Arts Education and pursued further study at the NH Institute of Art. Until her retirement she was a teacher of Visual Arts and Humanities at Manchester Central High School. For many years she was a representative and executive board member of the Manchester Education Association, the New Hampshire Education Association and National Education Association. Her skills include labor relations and personnel work.

She serves as a trustee at Canterbury Shaker Village and a volunteer at Massabesic Audubon Center, a 130 acre site located in Auburn. Prior to her retirement she was on the advisory board of the NH Scholastic Art Awards. In her spare time she enjoys gardening, travel and is an avid reader.


The addition of these three new directors brings the board to a full complement of fifteen.

The officers and board members would also like to recognize the two women whose term of office ended in May. Sara "Sally" Jones of Salisbury had served as secretary and Carol Theoharous of Pelham was editor of the quarterly newsletter. It is with sincere gratitude for their many years of invaluable service to our organization that NHLTA wishes them well.

The slate of officers for 2012-13 was unanimously approved by the board at the June meeting. Adele Knight continues as President, Loring Webster, Vice President, Elizabeth "Betsy" Solon, Treasurer, and Conrad Moses, Past-President. Carol Snelling assumes the duties of Secretary. 

## CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

Do you have a great idea to share with the readers of the NHLTA newsletter? 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 story.

The copy deadline for the next newsletter is September 1. Please e-mail [a.knight@nhlta.org](mailto:a.knight@nhlta.org). 

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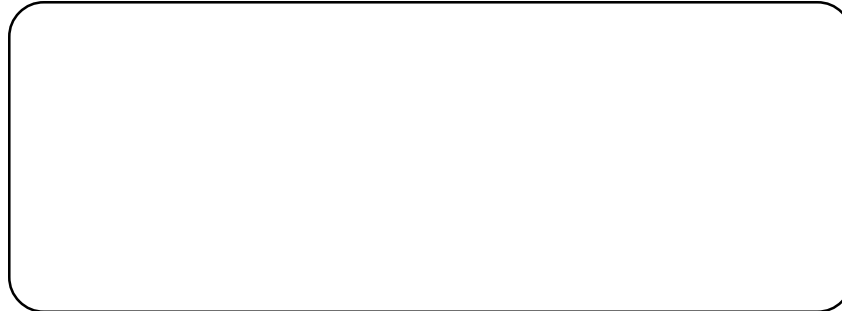
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## CALENDAR 2012

July 11	10:00 am	NHLTA Board of Directors meeting • LGC, 25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord
July 25	6:30–8:00 pm	NHLTA OPEN HOUSE • Weeks Memorial Library, Lancaster
Aug 1	10:00 am	NHLTA Board of Directors meeting • LGC, 25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord
Sept 5	10:00 am	NHLTA Board of Directors meeting • LGC, 25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord
Sept 5	6:00–8:00 pm	Hooksett Area Trustees gathering • Derry Library
Sept 11	6:00–8:00 pm	Botswana Library Project Slide Presentation • Manchester Public Library
Sept 12	5:00–8:00 pm	ORIENTATION WORKSHOP • Weeks Memorial Library, Lancaster
Sept 18	6:00–8:00 pm	Carroll County Trustee Roundable • Moultonborough Library
Sept 19	10 am–1:00 pm	ORIENTATION WORKSHOP • LGC, 25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord
Sept 19	5:00–8:00 pm	ORIENTATION WORKSHOP • Jackson Public Library
Sept 20	5:00–8:00 pm	ORIENTATION WORKSHOP • Richards Free Library, Newport
Sept 20	6:00–8:00 pm	NHLTA OPEN HOUSE • Joseph Patch Library, Warren
Sept 26	5:00–8:00 pm	ORIENTATION WORKSHOP • Moultonborough Library
Oct 11	10 am–1:00 pm	ORIENTATION WORKSHOP • LGC, 25 Triangle Park Dr, Concord
Oct 17	6:00–8:00 pm	NHLTA OPEN HOUSE • Lane Memorial Library, Hampton